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THE BUDGET.

NOBODY will deny that Mr. Gladstone's financial scheme is what, in modern days, we call a "great and comprehensive" one. The difficulty is that it may be too great and comprehensive, and less desirable than something much less novel and pretentious. For, what gives to the Budget of 1860 its peculiar character? The political situation of the year, and the political bearings of the measure. Though liberal in expenditure, the country is prosperous in trade, and might meet its demands, and yet put the most offensive part of its taxation in a way of reduction. But Mr. Gladstone has no such modest ideas. 1860 was to have been an *annus mirabilis*, and it shall be so, he resolves, still. It will not give, indeed, an end of the income tax, or a reduction of the war duties on tea and sugar; it will rather move in the opposite direction. But it shall not be commonplace for all that. The tariff shall be simplified, and free trade extended; new direct taxes shall be laid on; and the inspiration of the whole is a treaty with Louis Napoleon to inaugurate peace and harmony between the countries. Here are surely the materials for abundant discussion and controversy, materials so plentiful that the incessant activity of the whole press this week has failed to exhaust them.

Now, what we are chiefly anxious to point out to-day is, that, if the political object of the Budget (for the treaty is a part of the Budget) fails, everything fails. Either we shall secure great advantages from Louis Napoleon by the new course, or we were foolish to enter on it. We have given up all attempt to get rid of the income tax, and are continuing to pay as if we were at war, both in direct and indirect forms. To atone for this we ought to have something very good, not only commercially but politically, from France. When, then, are we to hear an explanation of the state of the French Navy? Say what we like, this is one of the most important elements in the matter. Our enormous expenditure on armaments is a main cause of our financial difficulties, and has been mainly promoted by the policy of the French Empire. The whole character of European politics has changed since the Empire was re-established. The strength of France has been vastly added to, and her influence in proportion. She has made a war to change the political positions of the South of Europe, and we are still in complete uncertainty as to its ultimate results. While doing so she has, as if in contemplation of the possibility of England opposing her, devoted great energies to the task of equalling her at sea. She is thus the cause of our expenditure, and we are about to thank her for it by a closer alliance than ever. Supposing at the best that there is no hitch in the working of that alliance,—that we gain largely by it,—that the French remain satisfied with it,—still there is the warlike expenditure (for aught Ministers tell us) to keep up, and our independence of action must be fettered the while. Who supposes that, having once undertaken the responsibility of so close an understanding, we shall be able to restrain Napoleon from doing what he likes in other regions of Europe? And that great troubles, arising out of his intervention in Italy, are yet to come, is too clear. His designs on Savoy and Nice are palpable.

If successful, it can only be by fresh struggles with Austria, as a further compensation for Sardinia. If unsuccessful, his desertion of the Italian cause will probably follow, involving troubles still more violent and hopeless.

We know well what the Bright school answer to considerations like these:—Never mind Italy. Let foreign politics alone Reform your tariff. Take the duty off eggs. Ship coals and iron to Cherbourg and pocket the proceeds. If you really want to save expense, put down ships and regiments. And this is a consistent view of theirs, and a complete one in its way. That a period has now arrived when mankind will never care for anything but cheap goods—that, make it their interest to buy from each other, and you have done everything—is the basis of the Manchester philosophy. But, waiving all other remarks for the time, it is enough for our present purpose to say—what is essentially the point—that it is not Louis Napoleon's philosophy. He is a man of "ideas," and he has made war for

a bit of Italian poetry already. He is a Bonaparte who has all his life studied his uncle's career, and is gradually working out his uncle's plans and retrieving his failures. Abstractedly he likes free trade, and at present he has no motive for fighting with England, which he probably holds in respect too. But it is nonsense to suppose that mere considerations of every-day common sense will dominate the far-ranging policy of a man with a mission and a destiny. The most dangerous fanaticism is that which is combined with worldly shrewdness, and which, like early Quakerism, manages to unite mysticism with worldly prosperity. We could hardly have a more formidable rival than one who threatens and coaxes us at the same time—who conducts wars for "ideas," and seeks cheap iron to make the sword of!

We repeat, then, the political element in the Budget is the most important point. In the coming discussions let us have it clearly ascertained what degree of submission to Napoleon

it is a good thing *per se*. The great change is in the matter of wine; for, if that be attended with the success hoped for by Mr. Gladstone, a kind of little social revolution will be the result. There is some confusion in what is generally said on this subject. Those who talk vaguely of "cheap claret" and "cheap burgundy" should define what they mean by cheapness, and what quality of wine they have in view. Good claret costs more in France than the poor can pay here, especially as the expense of shipment and the merchants' profits must in any case be added to the price. The cheaper wines, again—such as can really be sold cheap here—will take some time to educate the public into liking them.

You must love him ere to you
He will seem worthy of your love,

says Wordsworth of a peculiar character, which is true of light French wines. Undoubtedly French wine was once more generally used in this country than it has been since the heavy

duties. But, in the interval, our beer has improved, and it is with beer that the battle of French wine will have to be fought; for that wine is drunk for thirst, and not (like spirits) as a stimulant. The great French stimulant is brandy, which also we are to have cheaper, and which, we suspect, will get the start of its red and white compatriots in popularity. Meanwhile, a severe competition awaits all the manufacturers of "British" drink, as of those articles of ornament and luxury which the change will bring cheaper from France, and which France assuredly excels us in producing. Some of those who abused the farmers (so lustily during the corn-law agitation will now know why it was that, though in the wrong in the long run, the agitation of that class was natural and pardonable.)

On the paper duty we hardly pretend to be impartial judges. We always argued against it, and cannot but applaud its proposed abolition. We shall return again to Mr. Gladstone's scheme, which was introduced (as we ought all to admit) with admirable ability, be its difficulties what they may.

THE TREATY OF COMMERCE.

THE correspondence respecting the negotiation of the treaty of commerce with France has been published, and is not without interest.

Lord Cowley writes to Lord J. Russell on the 23rd of December, to the effect that Count Walewski has communicated to him the results of Mr. Cobden's confidential consultations with the French Minister of Commerce, and that the Emperor is desirous of knowing the views of her Majesty's Government. Lord Cowley adds that if the Government decide upon pursuing a negotiation it cannot be intrusted to better hands than those of Mr. Cobden. "The merit of whatever may be effected will rest solely with him, and it is but fair that he should have the satisfaction of putting his name to the final arrangement. I should feel no jealousy on such an occasion."

Lord J. Russell, on the 17th of January, informs Lord Cowley and Mr. Cobden that her Majesty has appointed them jointly the Plenipotentiaries to negotiate a treaty. His Lordship proceeds, as follows, to explain the views with which her Majesty has been so advised:—

"Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that although the activity of trade and the constant demand for labour in this country are such as to leave no pressing necessity for opportunities of extension, yet the enlargement of commercial relations, always in itself desirable,

ought to be more peculiarly an object of desire in the case of two countries prepared for such intercourse, like France and Great Britain, by local proximity, combined with considerable diversities of climate, productions, and industry. But over and above these considerations they attach a high social and political value to the conclusion of a commercial treaty with France. Its general tendency would be to lay broad and deep foundations in common interest and in friendly intercourse for the confirmation of the amicable relations that so happily exist between the two countries; and, while thus making a provision for the future, which would progressively become more and more solid and efficacious, its significance at the present moment, when the condition of some parts of the Continent is critical, would be at once understood, and would powerfully reassure the public mind in the various countries of Europe. On this account her Majesty's Government are prepared to entertain a negotiation on such a footing as will, they trust, give promise not only of a favourable but of a speedy issue. The changes which, on their part, it will be proposed to make will not be treated by them as sacrifices, unless, indeed, in a fiscal point of view, of British interests, to be compensated by



THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER EXPLAINING HIS BUDGET TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

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policy is expected from us as a part of a bargain which, commercially, will, at all events, benefit the French first.

There can be no doubt of the general advantage of unrestricted trade between nations. It is good for England and France to buy and sell from each other on a great scale, because each can produce something that the other requires. But all things depend on conditions of some kind or another. It would not be good to have unrestricted trading between nations if—

1. The boon was obtained on conditions of a dubious political character; or,

2. If it involved keeping up other taxes for economic purposes that were more objectionable than the duties sacrificed.

On these questions the country waits further explanations from Government, and further evidences of the feelings of those trades and occupations which the Budget specially affects.

As regards the reduction of duties on hosts of minor French articles of luxury, the mere simplification of our system by

similar sacrifices on the side of France. For it is their fixed belief that the most substantial interests of the two countries will in general be promoted as well by what her Majesty's Government might offer as by what they are to receive. They will be limited in what they design or adopt solely by two considerations—the necessity for raising a revenue sufficient for the purposes of the empire, and the duty of making an equitable adjustment of burdens as between commodities that more or less directly compete with one another in the general market. At the same time her Majesty's Government wish the Government of France to understand that they are about to give, by the steps which they now authorise you to take, no small earnest of the value they set upon strengthening and extending their relations with that country. For the effect of your instructions will be to place at your disposal a large sum belonging to the revenue from customs to be employed in removing, in most cases wholly, and in all cases to a considerable extent, the charge of customs duty from very important productions of France. These productions are not, in general, articles of such primary necessity, or of such universal use among the people of the United Kingdom, as to entitle them on these grounds to the first attention of the Government. They are selected, then, for relief in part, indeed, upon commercial grounds, but in part, also, because of the collateral effects which we anticipate from the conclusion of the treaty. Her Majesty's Government consider that, in measuring together the changes to be reciprocally made in the tariffs of the two countries, it is equitable to take into view the relative as well as the absolute nature of those tariffs. The rule of the French tariff is high duty in general, with a large measure of absolute prohibition. The rule of the British tariff is low duty in general, with a number of articles absolutely free; and likewise, with a small number of most important exceptions, of articles upon which high duties are imposed for fiscal purposes. Taking these as the respective points of departure on the two sides, her Majesty's Government are prepared to admit—as appears also to be the opinion of the French Government—that the proper basis for the operation will be, on the side of France, a general transition, so far as British commodities are concerned, from prohibition or high duty to duties at a moderate rate; and on the side of England the total abolition of customs duty on French productions, where fiscal considerations will permit it, and reduction to the lowest practical point, together with the entire abandonment of any protective impost on behalf of a British, and against a French, commodity, where fiscal considerations will not allow total abolition."

Our Foreign Minister then proceeds to explain at considerable length the manner in which her Majesty's Government propose to apply the principles which they have laid down as their guide in regard to the mode of dealing with commodities imported from France.

On the 23rd ult. Lord Cowley informs Lord John Russell that, since the receipt of the above despatch, "Mr. Cobden and I have been daily for several hours engaged with Messrs. Baroche and Rouher, the French Plenipotentiaries, in the performance of the duties intrusted to us. The way had been so completely cleared by Mr. Cobden's previous active exertions that the task which I have had to perform has been comparatively light. Your Lordship will find in the treaty signed this day, which is transmitted herewith, the result of our negotiations. It will, I trust, meet with the approval of her Majesty's Government." Lord Cowley is not disappointed, for Lord John Russell, writing on the 31st of January to his Excellency Mr. Cobden, says he has a great satisfaction in conveying to them "her Majesty's entire approval of the able and judicious manner in which you have carried out to a successful issue the important negotiations for placing the commercial relations between this country and France on an improved footing in which you have recently been engaged."

OPINION OF THE COUNTRY.

The *Times*' City article indicates the effect of the Budget on the City. The writer comes to the conclusion that, "however popular the scheme may be to-day, it will be more popular a week hence, and that it will continue to grow in favour, the complete appreciation of its results being likely to be attained only years hence, when those numerous developments of trade have taken place which freedom always begets, but which no one at starting can foresee." Without this prospect of support from the public at large it is possible, the writer thinks, that the many interests affected might, taking advantage of the income-tax continuance, raise a formidable opposition to the scheme.

The Manchester Reformers have, through Mr. Wilson, Mr. Bright, and other public men, and also by resolutions, approved the treaty; as do the Liverpool Reformers. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce has resolved upon a petition to Parliament in favour of the Budget. In the opinion of the Chamber the "entire Budget" is a comprehensive one, based on sound, fixed, industrial, and commercial measures; but at the same time the members petition for the adoption of a means for raising the revenue "with less irritation" than is now produced by the ordinary process. Birmingham, of course, approves of the Budget, with Norwich, Edinburgh, and other towns. Coventry is alarmed at it. The General Shipowners' Society of the City have adopted a petition against the third article of the treaty, which regards the differential duties as between English and French ships; this clause the Liverpool shipowners have also strongly protested against. The licensed victuallers are by no means pleased at the prospect of cheap wines; the tea-merchants are starting objections to the package tax, which, they say, will greatly affect the price of tea.

TERMS OF THE TREATY.

The treaty itself consists of twenty-two articles.

In the first are enumerated those articles of British production which are to be admitted into France at a duty of 30 per cent ad valorem. Amongst these articles we find iron forged in lumps or prisms, brass wire, refined sugar, chemical productions, soap, earthenware, china, glass, cotton manufactures, cotton and woollen yarns, worsted and woollen goods, cloth list, silk manufactures, hosiery, articles of every sort manufactured of leather, cutlery and all metal wares, pig and cast iron, bar and wrought iron, steel, machinery tools, and all mechanical instruments.

Article 2 provides for the reduction of the import duties on British coal and coke to fifteen centimes for the hundred kilogrammes.

It is understood that the rates of duty mentioned in the preceding articles are independent of the differential duties in favour of French shipping.

The duties ad valorem are to be calculated on the value at the place of production or fabrication of the object imported, with the addition of the cost of transport, insurance, and commission necessary for the importation into France as far as the port of discharge.

In article 5 we have a list of articles the duties on which her Majesty engages to recommend to Parliament to enable her to abolish. Among these we find: Percussion caps; arms of every description; jewels, set; corals; embroideries and needlework; brass and bronze manufactures, and bronzed metal; walking canes, umbrellas or parasol sticks, mounted, or otherwise ornamented; hats, gloves, stockings, socks, and other articles of cotton or linen; leather manufactures; lace, manufactures of iron and steel; machinery, mechanical instruments, tools; cutlery; millinery and artificial flowers; raw fruits; gloves and other leather articles of clothing; oils; musical instruments; worsted and woollen shawls; perfumery; cabinet ware, carved work, and turnery of every description; clocks, watches; manufactures of lead; feathers; goats'; and other hair manufactures; china; earthenware; grapes; manufactures of silk, or of silk mixed with any other materials, of whatever description.

Article 6 relates to the wine duties, and provides that from the 1st of April, 1861, the duties on importation shall be regulated as follows:—On wine containing less than 15 degrees of proof spirit the duty shall not exceed one shilling a gallon; on wine containing from 15 to 26 degrees, one shilling and sixpence a gallon; on wine containing from 26 to 40 degrees, two shillings a gallon; on wine in bottles, two shillings a gallon. Our Government reserves the power to fix the maximum amount of proof spirit which may be contained in liquor declared as wine, without, however, the maximum being lower than thirty-seven degrees.

Brandy and spirits are to be imported from France at a duty exactly equal to the excise duty levied upon homemade spirits, with the addition of a surtax of 24 s. a gallon, which will make the actual duty payable on French brandies and spirits 8s. 24 s. the gallon. Paperhangings are to be admitted at a duty equal to the excise tax—that is to say, at 14s. per cwt.; and cardboard at a duty which shall not exceed 15s. per cwt.

In all that relates to local treatment "the dues and charges in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, and rivers of the two countries, the privileges, or advantages to national vessels generally, or to the goods im-

ported or exported in them, shall be equally granted to the vessels of the other country, and to the goods imported or exported in them."

Articles 14 and 15 provide that "the present treaty shall be binding for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, so soon as the necessary legislative sanction shall have been given by Parliament, with the reserve made in article 6 respecting wines. Further, her Britannic Majesty reserves to herself the power of retaining, upon special grounds, and by way of exception, during a period not exceeding two years, dating from the 1st of April, 1860, half the duties on those articles the free admission of which is stipulated by the present treaty. This reserve, however, does not apply to articles of silk manufacture."

The engagements contracted by his Majesty the Emperor of the French shall be fulfilled, and the tariffs previously indicated as payable on British goods and manufactures shall be applied within the following periods:—For coal and coke, from the 1st of July, 1860. For bar and pig iron, and for steel of the kinds which are not subject to prohibition, from the 1st of October, 1860. For worked metals, machines, tools, and mechanical instruments of all sorts, within a period which shall not exceed the 31st of December, 1860. For yarns and manufactures in flax and hemp, from the 1st of June, 1861. And for all other articles from the 1st of October, 1861.

The treaty to remain in force for ten years; and in case neither of the contracting powers shall have notified to the other, twelve months before the expiration of the said period of ten years, the intention to put an end to its operation, the treaty shall continue in force for another year, and so on from year to year.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The French Senate and Legislative Body, whose Session was to have opened on Monday, are adjourned to the 1st of March, that is to say, to a period when our own Parliament, to whom a voice has been accorded in the matter, will have pronounced its verdict on the Anglo-French treaty.

M. Desambrois, the Sardinian Ambassador, has been recalled from Paris; this is construed into a resolution of the French and Sardinian Governments to disregard the treaty of Zurich altogether. M. Desambrois is succeeded by Signor Negra, who is said to be much in the confidence of Count Cavour.

The *Moniteur* announces that in future the publication or reproduction of false news, even when done without evil intention, will be punished by the tribunals.

The *Bretagne*, published at Brioux, has been suppressed for reflecting on the Emperor's policy with regard to the Pope. The Marquis de Lavalette has been appointed Ambassador at Constantinople.

ITALY.

SARDINIA.

Count Areze left Turin on the night of the 9th inst., on a mission to the Courts of France and England.

NAPLES.

The resignation of General Filangieri is reported to have been definitive; and a new Ministry is named as follows:—Prince Cassaro, President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Prince Comitini, Civil Affairs; Signor Savarese, Finances; Signor Bonnucci, Justice; Signor Spinelli, Public Works; Signor Ronzelli, Interior.

Several new battalions, composed partly of foreigners and partly of Neapolitans, have been organised. Fifteen thousand municipal guards had been mobilised in the Abruzzi. The King reviewed the troops on the 10th; and it is reported that his Majesty had ordered General Pinelli, in case of need, to act in concert with the Pope's General, Mayerhofer.

Terrible accounts are transmitted from Turin of atrocities committed by the police in Sicily; of prisoners tortured and dying under torture, while magistrates themselves are described as protesting against these inhuman acts. At the same time, revolutionary proclamations are distributed, urging the people to rise "in the name of Italian nationality, and to the cry of 'Italy and Victor Emmanuel for ever!'" From Naples itself we have telegraphic news (by way of Vienna) which has rather a different sound, for it says that the King has ordered the liberation of all such political prisoners as have been merely arrested upon suspicion.

ROME.

The agitation in the Papal States, still subject to the Pope's rule, is increasing. A petition praying for independence of the Pope and annexation to the Romagna has been sent from Ancona to the Emperor of the French, and the Pope's gendarmerie can do nothing but make wholesale arrests.

According to the *Dresden Journal* France has requested the Pope to make proposals for settling the question of the Romagna.

SAVOY.

The agitation is increasing in Savoy. Albertville has just imitated the example of Chambéry. An address to the King, covered with more than four hundred signatures, was presented on Sunday last to the Prefect by a crowd of citizens. The following is the text of this address:—

Sire,—King and country are now all our love and our sole aspirations. We do not wish to be separated from either. Sire, you are a Savoyard. By separating yourself from us you would destroy the traditions of your family; you would break to pieces eight centuries of popular attachment to the most loyal of monarchies; it would be necessary to remove from the sacred flag of Italian independence the white cross of Savoy. Remain, then, at the head of this good people whose name you bear, and who deem it a glory to have given Italy a saviour and a King who is an honest man. Long live Victor Emmanuel! Long live the house of Savoy!

The agitation in the northern provinces is equally great; petitions requesting annexation to Switzerland are covered with signatures. These petitions do not ask for annexation to the Helvetic Confederation unless it becomes absolutely necessary that Savoy should be detached from Italy.

The citizens of Geneva, in an address to the Swiss Federal Council, strongly protest against the proposed annexation.

AUSTRIA.

The reforms promised by the Austrian Government are about to be granted. Every province will receive a separate constitution and administration, "according to the wants of the different nationalities."

It is said that a new loan is projected.

DENMARK.

The sudden death of M. Rottwitz, Danish Minister of the Interior, has led to a disruption of the whole Ministry. Bishop Monead has been invited by the King of Denmark to re-enter office. The Bishop has returned from Paris to his native land.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

There was a report last week, to which we gave no credit, that an insurrection had broken out in Constantinople. No such disaster has yet occurred. It may be that the house tax imposed upon the city of Constantinople for furnishing the means of withdrawing the paper money had given rise to some discontent, as the news seems to indicate that one of the European Ambassadors (the Prussian) had advised the Turkish Government not to insist upon it; but, on the other hand, we meet with the fact that that measure of the withdrawal of the paper money is already in full progress, not less than thirty-two millions of piasters being, in reality, already withdrawn.

We are told that "since the departure of M. Thouvenel a great change has taken place in the relations of the Ambassadors. The French Chargé d'Affaires has scarcely had any intercourse with the Russian Ambassador, who has frequent conferences with the Austrian Intendant. Sir Henry Bulwer has had several conferences with Count Lallemand."

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

Disturbances are reported from Cape Coast. The people had been fighting among themselves, and in a pitched fight which had taken place fifteen were killed and upwards of forty wounded. The ring-leader in the disturbances had been sent on board a man-of-war and ordered to Quittah, where he would be kept in prison for two years.

Several of the natives had been very indignant at this, and threatened to break out again.

The *African*, under the head of "White Slavery," corroborates the statements made in "Richardson's Travels in Morocco," that white men are kept in bondage on the line of coast below Wadnoun and the adjacent Sahara.

At the Gold Coast a movement was on foot to increase the cultivation of cotton. At present there were two agricultural societies in the course of establishment, one at Cape Coast and the other at Accra. Six bales of cotton of capital quality had been shipped at Accra for England.

AMERICA.

The difficulty in the House of Representatives with regard to the Speakership has been solved. Mr. Pennington, the Republican candidate, was elected on the 1st by a majority of 1.

The *New York Herald* publishes the text of the convention recently negotiated between Great Britain and Honduras for the return of the Bay Islands to Honduras, and for the surrender of the Mosquito protectorate over that part of the Mosquito shore falling within the territorial jurisdiction of that Republic.

In this convention the importance of securing the neutrality of the Bay Islands, as well as the territory of the mainland adjacent, "with reference to any railway or other route of communication which may be constructed across the territory of Honduras," is made the ostensible object of the surrender of the islands.

A bill has been introduced into the Texas Legislature providing for the imprisonment of northern preachers, teachers, and drummers who may come there.

Francis Mitchell, found guilty at Charleston, S.C., of assisting a slave to leave the State, had been sentenced to be hanged on the 2nd of March.

There is a story about the British Minister at Mexico having sent an ultimatum to the Mexican Government regarding British claims. But what or who is the Government of Mexico?

CHINA.

We are informed that Lord Elgin will undertake a second mission as Plenipotentiary to China, in the hope of being able, by the influence obtained in his former visit, to secure the ratification of the Treaty of Tien-Tsin, and to obtain an entire cessation of hostilities.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 14th publishes news from Peking to the 4th of December. The Russian mission was going on well. The rebels were not agreed among themselves, and the Imperial soldiers had been victorious over them. European men-of-war were off the mouth of the Peiho.

FRANCE AND ROME.

REPLY OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO THE POPE'S LETTER.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by the French Minister, M. Thouvenel, to the diplomatic agents of France, in reply to the last encyclical letter of the Pope. M. Thouvenel says:—

Not doubting that this document has attracted the serious attention of the Government of —, I consider it my duty to enable you to make known how his Majesty's Government appreciate it.

I will not for the moment stop to notice the reproaches, more or less explicit, which are directed by the encyclical letter against the line of policy followed by the Emperor with regard to the Holy See in the difficult circumstances of these latter times. History in its impartiality will one day say whether the responsibility of the events which have occurred falls on the Sovereign whose efforts have been constantly employed to prevent them, or on those who, refusing any concession or any reform, and confining themselves to inexecutable inaction, have allowed things to grow worse and worse until they threaten to reach a point at which the evil becomes so great that it cannot be remedied.

What in particular has attracted the painful attention of his Majesty's Government is the forgetfulness of diplomatic usages which, in so important a matter, the Court of Rome has displayed, by transporting directly to the field of religion a question which before all things belongs to temporal order. We see with sentiments of sincere and profound regret the Holy Father appealing to the conscience of the clergy, and exciting the ardour of the faithful, with respect to an affair the discussion of which can only take place advantageously between Government and Government.

It is not intended, in fact, to make the slightest encroachment on the spiritual power of the Sovereign Pontiff, nor on the independence required for the exercise of that power within the limits of his rights. The question of Romagna, now, as at other periods, has arisen from political circumstances; and it is in its political aspect that we should examine it, by seeking the best means of satisfying necessities in the presence of which the Pontifical Government would not find itself fatally placed, if, instead of imprudently waiting for the development of the situation, it had listened to our counsels and seconded our efforts. No—whatever a party which does not fear to assume the appearance of a religious zeal may say; no—whatever may be done to lead to the belief that the interests of the faith are in peril, the question in discussion between the Government of his Holiness and that of the Emperor is, thank God! a purely temporal one. We may, therefore, discuss it without failing in the deference and respect which all France feels honoured in entertaining for the Father of the Faithful, and of which his Majesty has always been happy to be the first to give the example.

The Court of Rome has not been well inspired in endeavouring to establish, as the encyclical letter attempts to do, an indissoluble connection between two sorts of interests which cannot be mixed up and confounded without danger. And—

If we interrogate history with attention we shall see that it was not solely by invoking motives derived from its Divine mission, and by putting forth, as it were, claims in the name of Heaven, that the Papacy—sometimes with the support of the populations themselves, sometimes with the help of foreign Sovereigns—succeeded in gaining possession of a part of Italy. It would be seen, at the same time—and the fact must be proclaimed to the honour of the Holy See—that the Popes found in their wisdom, their enlightenment, their love of order and justice—in a word, in the better government which they offered to the people in those times of violence and anarchy—one of the essential elements of their political authority.

M. Thouvenel, however, will not dwell longer on this point of view for fear that he should lead to the belief that he is desirous of seeking in the contrast an allusion, and of borrowing from the past a lesson applicable to the present times, whereas nothing is further from his thoughts:—

But I may be permitted to say that in our days, in consequence of a progress which the Emperor's Government cannot consider otherwise than as a benefit irrevocably acquired to modern societies, separation has been effected between the two domains—the religious order and the civil and political one. The Holy See has therefore placed itself in discord not less with the general spirit of the time than with international rules, by making an appeal to men's consciences in the name of faith for an interest which, when rightly considered, is simply temporal.

Nor is the attempt supported by historical precedent.—

This is not the first time that, at periods not far distant from our own, the situation of Romagna, and the possession of that district, have been the subject of political discussion. In 1797 the Pope, in consequence of events of which he was obliged, as Sovereign, to accept the responsibility, ceded by the Treaty of Tolentino that province to France, and at the same time abandoned the ancient rights of the Holy See to the territory of Avignon; and great as was the regret he felt at a diminution of his domains, Pius VI. no doubt believed that he might subscribe to that convention without failing in his duties as Sovereign Pontiff and as guardian of the faith. The two contracting parties were not the only ones who saw in this transaction only a temporal act in no wise encroaching on religion. The preliminaries signed at Leoben two months later between France and Austria prove that the Court of Vienna did not think differently from France on the subject. After having maintained during the war close relations with the Court of Rome, Austria nevertheless supported an arrangement which awarded to her part of the States of Venetia, and indemnified the latter by transferring to them the possession of the three Legations of Romagna, Ferrara, and Bologna. The treaties of Campo Formio and Lunéville confirmed, in another form, the separation of those provinces; and, in the different arrangements which were then entered into, it is never seen that the Governments which took part in them had to pay any attention to the prerogatives of the Holy See, as regards its spiritual power and religious interests.

If we were to interrogate contemporary history on other points, who would not remember that at the beginning of this century ecclesiastical territories such as the Bishopric of Salzburg, the Provostship of Berchtsgaden, and the Bishoprics of Trent, Brixen, and Eichstadt, served, on the demand of Austria, to indemnify its Archdukes dispossessed in Italy? The participation of the Court of Vienna in these different transactions

certainly does not permit regarding them as an application of new principles for the use of France.

In 1815 the Romagna had a narrow escape from remaining separate from the Pontifical States:—

More than one combination conceived in that sense was brought forward in the Congress of Vienna; and it is well known that Prussia, for instance, proposed to dispose of the Legations in favour of the King of Saxony, who would have received them as a compensation. It was not without difficulty that the Pope succeeded in retaining them and in making the right he invoked prevail over the opinion, so worthy of remark, adopted by the Plenipotentiaries, that the Legations were at the disposal of the allies by right of conquest.

M. Thouvenel concludes by saying he has no intention, in making this statement, of drawing from it arguments against "the acknowledged rights of the Holy See;" but he feels bound "to rectify the erroneous impressions which might tend to represent an opinion emitted on a temporal question as an attack on the imprescriptible and sacred prerogatives of the Catholic Church."

THE POPE AND THE BISHOP OF ORLEANS.

The Pope has written the following letter to the Bishop of Orleans:—

Venerable Brother,—Salutation and apostolical benediction! During these great troubles in Italy which have violently deposed Sovereigns, and ruined the legitimate power of the Holy See throughout Emilia and Romagna, the real object of the authors and promoters of the rebellion—their ultimate ideas, in short—have been completely revealed by that work (meaning the Emperor Napoleon's pamphlet), so full of deception, which has been published in France and circulated not only in the towns but in all the villages of Italy. You, venerable Brother, at once perceived the detestable object of this writing (meaning the pamphlet), and, without loss of time, you resolutely and courageously set yourself to work to give it a direct refutation. Your energy, your firmness of soul, are held in esteem even by the enemies of the temporal power; all good men celebrate your virtues; and we, venerable Brother, send you our most fraternal and hearty congratulations on this new and signal service which you have rendered to the Apostolic See and to our sovereignty. We thank you for this new work, which we have read with extreme satisfaction. As to the new work which you are preparing to defend the sovereignty of the Apostolic See, we not only approve of it, venerable Brother, but we are confident that it will most materially tend to confirm the rights of the Apostolic See and of the universal Church.

THE ITALIAN QUESTION.

The proposals of England for the settlement of the Italian difficulty meets with small success on the Continent. Prince Gortschakoff has informed the French Government that Russia does not think those proposals satisfactory, and that a real understanding can only result from a conference of the five great Powers. The French Government, it is said, favours this view; and it is evident from a despatch of M. Thouvenel that, while the Emperor has no objection to the spirit of England's proposals, he does not care to act on them. A telegram from Berlin informs us that "the despatch by which Baron Schleinitz has given his adhesion to the English proposals concerning the Italian negotiations contains a very important reservation. Although the proposals are accepted by Prussia as the basis of a future agreement between the great Powers, the Prussian Cabinet, nevertheless, declares beforehand that it could not approve any combinations which might be in opposition to the principle of legitimacy upon which the Prussian monarchy is founded. It is supposed that Russia will make a similar reservation. Austria's sentiments are not yet known."

Count Cavour is now himself said to have advised the revolutionary statesmen in Central Italy to comply, as far as they are concerned, with the propositions made by the Government of this country, and to have resort to new elections for deciding whether the people under their sway really want annexation to Sardinia. The whole affair, however, turns at present upon the decision of Austria. The elections will take place, but so much is their result anticipated that provision is already made at Turin to receive the deputies about to be elected in the bosom of the Sardinian representation immediately after they shall have recorded their vote for the annexation. In token of its conviction that this result is sure to follow the Sardinian Government is also about to withdraw its diplomatic representative from Florence.

THE WAR IN MOROCCO.

On the 1st inst. Marshal O'Donnell made a reconnaissance along the road to Fez, as far as two leagues from Tetuan. General Prim had a reconnoitring party in another direction. According to the Spanish accounts, the population, far from showing any hostility, received the troops in a friendly manner.

Marshal O'Donnell announces, in an order of the day, that he will continue offensive operations until the enemy shall ask mercy of Spain, and until reprisals have been taken for the insults of the enemy, and an indemnity obtained for the sacrifices of Spain. The Spanish Cabinet, we are assured, will listen to no proposals of peace until Tangier has been taken, against which place military operations are to commence immediately. However, something is said of mediation on the part of England between the belligerents, and the name of Lord Howden, the former Ambassador to Madrid, is suggested as the mediator most likely to succeed.

The war has already cost the Spanish many soldiers, with few advantages to balance. O'Donnell's loss up to this time is computed at 10,000 men. Also it is expensive. The Spanish Government is about to issue notes to the amount of 200,000,000 reals, payment of which is to be ensured by the sale of national property.

On receipt of the news of the capture of Tetuan the Empress of the French is said to have addressed the following telegraphic despatch to the Queen of Spain:—"The Empress of the French congratulates your Majesty with all her heart, because the triumph of the Spanish arms cannot be indifferent to her." The Queen replied in suitable terms. The Emperor of the French also congratulated the Queen by telegraph, and his despatch reached her Majesty in the midst of the "Te Deum" at the Church of Atocha.

A CORPORATION IN A FIX.—The Corporation of Gravesend having mortgaged the whole of its property to a Mr. Wells for the sum of £12,721, notice has been given that the mortgage will be foreclosed on the 20th of March next. At the last meeting of the Corporation the subject was discussed; and the town-clerk stated that there was no means of obtaining the required sum.

ATTACK ON THE DUTCH MINISTER AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—Two carriages, containing women of the harem, escorted by a cunuch, stopped at a confectioner's shop in the principal street of Pera, and, as the street is rather narrow at that part, carriages arriving in either direction had to wait. This impeded circulation, and the Dutch Minister, Count van Zuylen, who came up on foot, was in passing pushed near the vehicles of the women. On that the cunuch, without a moment's hesitation, drew his sword, and aimed a violent blow at the Minister's head. M. van Zuylen fortunately warded off the blow with his cane, and seized the cunuch, who is a negro. Some of the passers by, indignant at the outrage, gave the man, in spite of the harem women, a good thrashing. Some police officers rescued the negro, and the two carriages at once drove off. Count van Zuylen immediately addressed a complaint to the Ottoman Government.

CORPORATION REFORM.—A Common Hall, or meeting, of the Livery of London was held on Saturday at the Guildhall to express its opinion on the new bill of the Government for the reform of the City Corporation. The meeting was neither large nor enthusiastic. A resolution was moved condemning the bill, and, after this was seconded, Sir James Duke, M.P., had the courage to rise and express disapproval. Mr. Cubitt, M.P., and Mr. Crawford, M.P., also spoke, and so did Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., who moved a second resolution, denouncing the Government measure as one of confiscation. Both resolutions were carried.

BURNED TO DEATH.—The dress of a Mrs. Groom, residing in St. George's-in-the-East, caught fire on Sunday evening, and she was unaware of what had taken place until she became fairly encircled in flames. Her cries brought her husband to her assistance, and he did all he could to subdue the fire until he was himself so terribly burnt over the hands, face, and head that he was unable to render any further aid. Three neighbours now rushed into the house, and in assisting the sufferers they too were much burnt. The unfortunate woman and her husband were removed to the London Hospital, where the poor woman expired, her husband remaining in a very precarious condition. The other sufferers were progressing favourably.

THE BUDGET.

The following are the resolutions (independent of those connected with the French treaty) which Mr. Gladstone is to propose in committee:—

1. **CONTRACT NOTES.**—The exemption from stamp duty contained in the schedule to the Act of the 55th of George III., cap. 184, and also in the schedule to the Act of the 56th of George III., cap. 56, in the following words (that is to say):—"Memorandum, letter, or agreement made for or relating to the sale of any goods, wares, or merchandise," shall be repealed. And there shall be charged and paid for and upon every note or memorandum, commonly called a contract note, for or relating to the sale or purchase of any goods, wares, or merchandise, or of any stocks, funds, or securities, or share or shares of or in any joint-stock or other public company, and for and upon every agreement under hand only, letter, minute, or memorandum made by the vendor or purchaser, or any person on their behalf respectively, for or relating to the sale or purchase of any goods, matters, or things as aforesaid, the stamp duty of 1d.

2. **DOCK WARRANTS.**—For and upon any warrant or document commonly called a dock warrant, or any other writing or document, by whatever name the same shall be designated, entitling, or intended to entitle, any person therein named, or his assigns, or the holder thereof, to the property in any goods, wares, or merchandise lying in any dock or warehouse, or upon any wharf, and also for and upon every transfer of any such warrant, writing, or document as aforesaid, there shall be charged the stamp duty of 3d.

3. **BILLS, DRAFTS, OR ORDERS.**—All bills, drafts, or orders for the payment of any sum of money, though not made payable to the bearer or to order, and whether delivered to the payer or not; and all writings or documents entitling or intended to entitle to the payment of any sum of money any person whatever, whether named or designated therein or not, or whether delivered to him or not, shall respectively be deemed to be bills, drafts, or orders for the payment of money chargeable with stamp duty, as if the same had been made payable to bearer or to order.

4. **EXTRACTS.**—BIRTHS, DEATHS, &c.—For and upon every certified copy or extract of or from any register of births, deaths, or marriages, there shall be charged the stamp duty of 1d.

5. **COST-BOOK.**—For and upon every note, instrument, or writing requesting or authorising the purser or other officer of any mining company conducted on the cost-book system, to enter in the cost-book any transfer of any share or part of a share in any mine, or any notice to such purser or officer of any such transfer as aforesaid, there shall be charged and paid the stamp duty of 6d.

6. **HERITABLE BONDS.**—Money secured on heritable property in Scotland, and money secured by Scotch bonds in favour of heirs and assignees, excluding executors, shall be held and interpreted to be movable property, and shall be included in any inventory to be exhibited and recorded in any Commissary Court in Scotland of the estate and effects of any person deceased entitled thereto, and in England and Ireland respectively, shall be deemed to be estate and effects for or in respect whereof any probate of will or letters of administration shall be granted; and every such inventory probate and letters of administration shall be chargeable with stamp duty in respect of such movable property.

7. **AGREEMENTS.**—The respective stamp duties now chargeable upon any agreement, or any minute or memorandum of an agreement, made in England or Ireland under hand only, or made in Scotland without any clause of registration, and not otherwise charged nor expressly exempted from all stamp duty, where the matter thereof shall be of the value of £20 or upwards, whether the same shall be only evidence of a contract, or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written instrument, together with every schedule, receipt, or other matter put or indorsed thereon, or annexed thereto, shall cease; and in lieu thereof shall be charged for and upon every such agreement, minute, or memorandum as aforesaid, whether the matter thereof shall or shall not be of the value of £20 or upwards, the stamp duty of 6d. And where the same shall contain 2160 words, then for every entire quantity of 1080 words contained therein over and above the first 1080 words a further progressive duty of 6d. Provided always that where divers letters shall be offered in evidence to prove any agreement between parties who shall have written such letters, it shall be sufficient if any of such letters shall be stamped with a duty of 1s.

8. **BUILDING SOCIETIES.**—An exemption from stamp duty granted or conferred by the Act 6th and 7th of William IV., chap. 32, for the regulation of benefit building societies other than the exceptions contained in section 8 of the said Act, shall cease and be repealed.

9. **AGREEMENTS FOR LEASES.**—Every agreement for a lease or tack of any lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects, and every agreement, minute, or memorandum of agreement, containing the terms and conditions on which any lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects are let, held, or occupied, shall be chargeable with the stamp duty payable on a lease or tack for the term, rent, consideration, and conditions mentioned in such agreement, minute, or memorandum. And any lease or tack of the same lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects afterwards made in pursuance of, and conformably to, any such agreement, minute, or memorandum, which shall have actually paid the duty payable on such lease or tack as aforesaid, shall not be chargeable with any higher stamp duty than 2s. 6d., exclusive of progressive duty. Provided always that where any such lease or tack would, but for the last preceding provision, be liable to any higher rate of stamp duty than 2s. 6d. (exclusive as aforesaid), such lease or tack shall not be available unless stamped with a particular stamp for denoting or testifying the payment of the full and proper stamp duty on such agreement, minute, or memorandum as aforesaid, which said particular stamp shall be impressed upon such lease or tack on the same being produced, together with such agreement, minute, or memorandum, and on the whole being duly executed or signed, and duly stamped in all other respects.

10. **PROBATE DUTY.**—POWERS OF APPOINTMENT.—The stamp duties payable by law upon probates of wills and letters of administration, with a will annexed, in England and Ireland, and upon inventories in Scotland, shall be levied and paid in respect of all the personal or movable estate and effects which any person hereafter dying shall have disposed of by will under any authority enabling such person to dispose of the same as he or she shall think fit.

11. **MALT CREDIT.**—The time limited for payment of the duty of excise on malt by every maltster or maker of malt who shall have given security in the manner directed by the Act passed in that behalf in respect of all malt begun to be made on and after the 1st day of October, 1860, shall be six weeks in lieu of twelve weeks after the making of such account or return of duty as in the said Act is mentioned.

12. **HOPS.**—In lieu of the duties on excise now payable on hops growing or to grow in Great Britain there shall be charged the following rate of duty (that is to say):—For every pound weight avoirdupois of such hops which shall be cured and made fit for use the duty of three-halfpence; such duty to be paid by the owner or possessor of such hops, and to be payable on the 1st day of January next after the curing thereof.

13. **CHICORY.**—There shall be charged and paid upon chicory, or any other vegetable matter applicable to the uses of chicory or coffee, grown in the United Kingdom, for every hundredweight thereof, raw or kiln-dried, until the 1st day of April, 1861, the duty of 3s., and on and after that day the duty of 6s., and so in proportion for any greater or less quantity than a hundredweight.

14. **GAME.**—LICENSES TO KILL.—The duties contained in Schedule (L) of the several Acts the 48th of George III., cap. 35, and the 52nd of George III., cap. 93, and payable in respect of killing game, and also the further additional duty payable in respect of the same under the Act the 3rd of Victoria, cap. 12, sect. 8, shall cease and determine on the 5th day of April, 1860, and in lieu thereof there shall be charged and paid the following duties (that is to say):—For a license to be taken out by every person who shall use any dog, gun, net, or other engine for the purpose of taking or killing any game whatever, or any woodcock, snipe, quail, or landrail, or any conies, or shall take or kill, by any means whatever, or shall assist in any manner in the taking or killing, by any means whatever, any game, or any woodcock, snipe, quail, or landrail, or any conies, if such a person shall be a servant to any person duly charged to the duties of assessed taxes in respect of such servant, and shall be acting by virtue of any deputation or appointment, duly registered or entered as gamekeeper for any manor or royalty in England, Wales, or Berwick-upon-Tweed, or for any lands in Scotland, £1 7s. 6d. And if such person shall not be such servant acting as aforesaid, then—If the license shall be taken out after the 5th day of April, and before the 1st day of October, in any year, £3. Or if the same shall be taken out on or after the 1st day of October, and before the 1st day of December, in any year, £2. Or if the same shall be taken out on or after the 1st day of December in any year, and before the 6th day of April in the following year, £1.

15. **EATING-HOUSES.**—Every person who shall, in any house, room, shop, or building, sell any victual or refreshment, to be consumed on the premises where the same shall be sold (except beer, cider, wine, and spirits respectively sold under a proper license in that behalf); and every person who shall keep open any house, room, shop, or building for the consumption therein by the public of any victual or refreshment (except as aforesaid), although the same shall not be sold therein, shall respectively be deemed to keep a refreshment-house, and shall, unless he be duly licensed by the justices to keep a common inn, alehouse, or victualling-house on the same premises, take out a license to keep a refreshment-house; and every such license shall be charged with the respective duties following (that is to say):—For every license to keep a refreshment-house, if the house and premises shall be under the rent and value of £25 a year, 10s.; and if the same shall be of the rent or value of £25 a year or upwards, £1; and if any person who shall take out a license to keep a refreshment-house shall be desirous of selling beer or wine, or beer and wine by retail to be consumed therein, a license shall be granted to him for that purpose on payment of

the respective duties following (that is to say):—For every such license to sell beer only or wine only, if the house and premises shall be under the rent and value of £25 a year, £3; and if the same shall be of the rent or value of £25 a year or upwards, £4 10s.; and for every such license to sell both beer and wine, if the house and premises shall be under the rent and value of £25 a year, £5; and if the same shall be of the rent or value of £25 a year or upwards, £8. Provided always that no license for which the foregoing duties shall be paid shall authorise any person to keep open any refreshment-house after the hour of twelve o'clock at midnight, or to open the same before the hour of four o'clock in the morning. And for every such license as aforesaid which shall authorise any person to keep open any refreshment-house after the hour of twelve o'clock at midnight, and to open the same before the hour of four o'clock in the morning, there shall be charged and paid double the rates of duty aforesaid respectively.

16. **PAPER DUTY.**—That on or after the 1st of July, 1860, all duties of excise on paper, button-board, mill-board, paste-board, and scale-board made in the United Kingdom, and all drawbacks and allowances in respect thereof, shall cease and be repealed.

17. **INCOME TAX.**—There shall be charged, collected, and paid, for one year, commencing on the 6th day of April, 1860, for and in respect of all property, profits, and gains, charged or chargeable under the Act passed in the 16th or 17th years of her Majesty's reign, cap. 34, for granting to her Majesty duties on profits arising from property, professions, trades, and offices, either by assessment, contract of composition, or otherwise, the following rates and duties (that is to say):—Upon any assessment to the annual value or amount of any property, profits, or gains (except property, profits, and gains chargeable under Schedule B of the said Act), the rate or duty of 10d. for every 20s. of the annual value or amount of all such property, profits, and gains respectively; and for and in respect of the occupation of lands, tenements, hereditaments, and heritages chargeable under Schedule B of the said Act, the rate or duty of 5d. in England and of 3d. in Scotland and Ireland respectively for every 20s. of the annual value thereof.

SCOTLAND.

TRIAL OF THE BISHOP OF BRECHIN.—The Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church assembled in synod last week, at Edinburgh, for the purpose of hearing an accusation against Dr. A. P. Forbes, Bishop of Brechin, for heretical doctrine on the subject of the Eucharist. The hearing lasted all Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The Bishop was heard at great length in his defence, his answers forming a large folio of 230 printed pages, the major part of which he read. He pleaded that it was not enough for the presenters to show that the passages complained of were opposed to the teaching of certain prevalent schools of theology in the English or Scottish Churches. The presenters were bound to show that the passages complained of were subversive, not of this or that interpretation of the Church's formularies, but of the literal and grammatical sense of the articles, formularies, or offices of the Church themselves. The Rev. Mr. Henderson, Incumbent of St. Mary's, Arbroath, was heard at great length for the presenters, and went over several points challenged, to show that the accusation had been made out, and that the Bishop's teaching was literally, grammatically, and substantially opposed to the doctrine of the Church's articles and formularies. The synod allowed the Bishop to lodge a reply to the argument of the presenters before the 23rd of February, and adjourned further procedure till March 14, when the Court would hear parties make such further observations as they might consider necessary.

IRELAND.

EFFECTS OF THE REVIVAL.—The usual return of the prisoners committed to take their trial at the assizes for county Antrim has just been made to the Crown Solicitor; and the return is simply marked "Nil," there not being a single prisoner in custody. This state of things is said to be chiefly due to the recent revival movement in this province. *The Derry Sentinel* says:—"When the revival movement commenced it was stated by both friends and foes that time would test its effects. Time has applied its test, and the good work has not been found wanting. In Derry and in many other parts of Ulster the additional religious agencies which were commenced in summer are steadily continued. Churches are well attended. Some may have lapsed into careless habits, but in many religious principle has become deeper, and right habits are becoming stronger. Many testimonials to the good effects of the revival have been given by public men, and we are happy to learn that additional testimony of a valuable character was given by William Armstrong, Esq., Q.C., Assistant Barrister at the late Coleraine Quarter Sessions. Referring to the small number of cases on the calendar he said:—'How is such a gratifying state of things to be accounted for? It must be from the improved state of the morality of the people. I believe I am fully warranted now to say that to nothing else than the moral and religious movement which commenced early last summer can the change be attributed. I can trace the state of your calendar to nothing else. It is a matter of great gratification when we see the people of this county improving, and I trust that no temptation of any sort will arise by which they can be induced to forsake the paths of rectitude.'"

THE PROVINCES.

INGENUOUS PETITION.—The following petition to the House of Commons was lately printed, among others. It was presented by Mr. Sidney Herbert:—"We, the undersigned Poor Men of the parish of Winterset, in the county of Wilts, do humbly solicit the attention of your honourable House to our humble Petition. Being poor labouring men, mostly with families and aged, and living in a woody district of the county, where there is a great many English truffles grow, which we cannot find without dogs, we do therefore keep and use a small pudle sort of dog, wholly and solely for that and no other purpose; and, as it is in the winter season of the year when we gather them, when labourers are generally on the excess in our neighbourhood, we often are enabled by the aforesaid dogs to provide a subsistence for our families, otherwise we should often be a burden to the parish; and as it hath been carried on by our ancestors for generations past without paying any tax for the dogs; but as the tax is now levied upon us—viz., 12s. per year, and as we have to keep our dogs six months when we have no use for them, it presses so heavy upon us that without redress we shall in most cases be obliged to make a sacrifice of our dogs, and thereby become a burden to the parish, and in some cases paupers on the union; and, as it did please your honourable House in its wisdom to exempt dogs used purposely for cattle for the maintenance of shepherds, &c., from paying of tax, we do humbly beg that your honourable House will take our case into your kind consideration, and exempt us from paying tax on our truffle dogs, that we may be enabled to follow our avocation for ours and families subsistence. And your petitioners will for ever pray, &c.—CHARLES YATES, WILLIAM YATES, sen., WILLIAM HARRAWAY, &c., &c., &c."

MURDER.—A farm labourer at Skegness, on the Lincolnshire coast, was found dead in a ditch on Sunday week. The man had left a public-house on Saturday night with two companions, all being the worse for drink. There were marks of a struggle where the body was lying; and one of the other men, who was last seen in the company of the deceased, has been apprehended on suspicion of murder.

ELECTION NEWS.—Mr. Cowper, the new Minister of Public Works, has been returned by his Hertford constituents without opposition; and so with Mr. Hutt, the new Vice-President of the Board of Trade, elected at Gateshead without even having been present for the purpose. New writs have been issued for Ennis and Cork county. These arise from the appointment of Mr. Fitzgerald to the Irish Judgeship, vacant by the retirement of Mr. Justice Perrin, and the appointment of Mr. Dewey to the office of Attorney-General for Ireland, vacated by Mr. Fitzgerald. The latter gentleman, of course, leaves the House of Commons altogether. Mr. Sergeant O'Hagan has been appointed Solicitor-General in the room of Mr. Sergeant Dewey. A petition against the return for Pontefract has been presented and made over to the Committee on Elections. The petition for Peterborough has been withdrawn.

POOR-LAW DEFAULTERS.—A list of fourteen London parishes is given in which, during the last six years, cases of embezzlement or default by poor-law officers have taken place. The City of London Union is notorious for these disgraceful defalcations. There were four from 1852 to 1856, the sums lost amounting, in all, to some £14,341. Of this sum only £674 was recovered. Again, there were ten more defalcations in 1855 and 1856, by the assistant clerk (the rest were by the collector), the amount of the defalcations being £5816, of which £500 was recovered. Proceedings were taken against the sureties, but they were "not responsible," except "for the due performance of the duties." In St. Pancras five defalcations were recorded, to the amount of £1821, of which a fair proportion was recovered. In seven cases the whole amount of the defalcations was recovered.

THE HEALTH OF THE FRENCH ARMY IN ITALY.—The case of the *Corriere Mercantile* of Genoa has just received, not a warning—the Alps present a formidable obstacle to such a measure—but what in France is called a *verte sentence*, and in England a jobation, for having declared that 6000 men of the French army in Italy had been swept off during the last six months by typhus fever, which fact, added to the numerous furloughs granted for convalescence, would render an immediate dispatch of 15,000 men to fill the ranks a necessary measure. The *Monitor* does not deny the deficiency in the ranks of the French army, but gives the lie direct to the *Corriere* with respect to its explanation of the cause, and merely says that the number of sick and wounded after the glorious campaign of last summer had necessitated their removal to the watering-places in the south of France, and thus caused the deficiency in their numbers, which the Administration had not yet considered it necessary to fill up.



THE FRENCH ARMY—NEW INFANTRY UNIFORMS.

M. MAMIANI.

We feel a pleasure in publishing the portraits of public men, of whatever nationality they be, provided they have achieved a position in the esteem of their fellow-citizens. The subject of our present brief notice, Count Mamiani, a member of the new Sardinian Cabinet, has just been appointed Minister of Public Instruction in Turin, and is one of those illustrious worthies in whom all Italy feels pride. Born, about the year 1802, in the States of the Church, he was chosen as member of the Executive of Bologna at the insurrection which broke out in the Romagna on the accession of Gregory XVI. The intervention of the Austrians in favour of the Pope compelled him to fly, and he sought refuge in Paris, in which city he formed a propaganda society, by means of which he sought to reanimate the courage of his countrymen. On his return to Italy, in 1846, he placed himself at the head of the Liberal party. In March, 1848, at the outbreak of the Revolution, he accepted the presidency of the Cabinet, unanimously offered to him by his fellow-ministers. The period of his administration will be remembered as that during which electric telegraphs and the decimal system of coinage, &c., were introduced into the Roman States. On the entrance of the French troops into the Eternal City M. Mamiani was obliged to retire to Genoa, which place continued to be his residence until very lately. Independently of his talents as a statesman, M. Mamiani has earned for himself considerable fame as an author, many of his works having become standard books of reference wherever the Italian language is spoken.

NEW UNIFORMS FOR THE FRENCH ARMY.

At the present moment, when the question of dressing our volunteer regiments is being ventilated in the public press, much difference of opinion being expressed by all parties, despite the Government pattern just issued from the War Office, the accompanying Illustrations of the new uniforms for the French army may not be uninteresting. We have been accustomed to look lately on our neighbours across the Channel as authorities in all things appertaining to military matters, and in clothing their soldiers they excel any other nation we know of. Every campaign teaches them a lesson which they are sure to profit by, and the late war in Italy has suggested modifications which cannot fail to be otherwise than conducive to the soldier's comfort.

The new uniform consists of full red trousers, falling in plaits to midway below the knee, where they are confined by gaiters. The tunic is very similar to that already worn by the Chasseurs à Pied of the Imperial Guard; it is of blue cloth, with embroidered collar and red bindings, closing over the chest with nine copper buttons. There is a great coat with a hood, made of iron-grey cloth and bound with red. It falls to below the knee. For the head there is a forage-cap in red, with blue border, which is made to be worn up or down. A full-dress shako of graceful form, blue in colour, and surmounted by a crimson plume, completes this serviceable costume, which is adapted either to show off the troops on the review-ground or ensure them comfort in a campaign.

INCIDENT OF THE WAR IN MOROCCO.

As we have already had occasion to remark in previous Numbers of this Journal, the war between the Moors and the Spaniards has been carried on with very few amenities. Should by chance a wounded



COUNT MAMIANI, MINISTER OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AT TURIN.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. PERREI.)

soldier of O'Donnell be left upon the ground he is certain to be dispatched by the fanatic Arabs, who, in addition to the reward offered for Christian heads, have an idea that the easiest way to mount to heaven is on a pyramid of Spanish skulls. The knowledge of the cruel fate in store for a wounded comrade has been the cause of many a brilliant feat of arms amongst the Spanish soldiers. The incident illustrated in the annexed Engraving rose from an effort made by a couple of chasseurs to rescue a wounded man of their regiment from the barbarous clutches of some Moors who were about to give him his *coup de grace*. The correspondent who sent the sketch tells us that, though badly wounded, the chasseurs beat off the enemy, after having killed one of their number, and returned in triumph to their own lines, bearing between them their rescued comrade.

DEATH OF SIR WILLIAM NAPIER.

ANOTHER renowned member of the family that has furnished this country with so many great men has been called away. Sir William Napier died on Sunday at Seinde House, Clapham.

He was born in 1785 at Castletown, in Ireland, and was the son of Colonel the Hon. George Napier by the celebrated Lady Sarah Lennox,

daughter of the second Duke of Richmond. He is brother of the illustrious conqueror of Scinde. Sir William, having entered the army in 1800, served at the siege of Copenhagen, and fought at the battle of Kioge in 1807. He served with Sir John Moore in 1808, and, continuing in the Peninsula throughout the subsequent campaigns, commanded the 42nd Regiment at Salamanca, Nivelle, and Nive, and was several times severely wounded during the war. He was Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey from 1842 to 1848; and in the latter year was created a Military Knight, and became Colonel of the 27th Regiment. He was raised in 1851 to the rank of Lieutenant-General.

Meantime, Sir William had proved that he could use the pen as forcibly as he had wielded the sword. In 1828 he commenced his publication of "The History of the War in the Peninsula and in the South of France, from the year 1807 to 1814." This work, which consists of six volumes, is universally regarded as the most valuable record of the scenes it narrates; and the acuteness, accuracy, and knowledge of the art of war displayed in its pages are beyond all question. Perhaps no military history of equal excellence has ever been written. It cost the author sixteen years of continuous labour. He was himself a witness of several of the series of operations, and was engaged in many of the battles. His wide acquaintance with military men enabled him to consult many distinguished officers, English and French, and he was especially supplied with materials and documents by the Duke of Wellington and Marshal Soult. The ordinary sources of information were embarrassing from their abundance. One mass of materials deserves especial mention. When Joseph Bonaparte fled from Vittoria he left behind him a very large collection of letters, which, however, were without order, in three languages, many almost illegible, and the most important in cipher, of which there was no key. It was the correspondence of Joseph Bonaparte while nominally King of Spain. Sir William Napier was in a state of perplexity, and almost in despair of being able to make any use of these valuable materials, when his wife undertook to arrange the letters according to dates and subjects, to make a table of reference, and to translate and epitomise the contents of each. Many of the most important documents were entirely in cipher, of some letters about one half was in cipher, and others had a few words so written interspersed. All these documents and letters Lady Napier arranged, and with a rare sagacity and patience she deciphered the secret writing. The entire correspondence was then made available for the historian's purpose. She also made out all Sir William Napier's rough interlined manuscripts, which were almost illegible to himself, and wrote out the whole work fair for the printers—it may be said three times, so frequent were the changes made. Sir William Napier is also the author of "The Conquest of Scinde" and "Life and Opinions of Sir Charles Napier," besides treatises on the poor law and on the corn laws, and some reviews and works of fiction.

If we say that the active service of Sir William Napier was commensurate with the services of the famous Light Division in the Peninsula, we shall have said quite enough to define and establish his claims as a working soldier. It is true that he was in the expedition to Copenhagen in 1807, and that he was not on the retired list in 1815, but the Peninsula is the sphere of his duty and his experience; nor did he, as an active member of his profession, ever overstep the capacity of a regimental officer. At first his promotion was rapid; but, though he



THE WAR IN MOROCCO.—TWO SPANISH SOLDIERS SURPRISED BY MOORS WHILE ATTEMPTING TO REMOVE A WOUNDED COMRADE.

entered the war a Captain, he left it only a Lieutenant-Colonel; and it was this rank alone, and upon the half-pay establishment of the 43rd Foot, that he made his first appearance before the public in the new character of a military historian.

Though he entered the Army in the last century, and fought his last fight almost fifty years ago, he was only seventy-four when he was overtaken by death.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 117. THE BUDGET NIGHT.

WHEN the House opened on Thursday night it was still somewhat doubtful whether Mr. Gladstone would be strong enough for his work on Friday. Late in the evening, however, a letter was received by Lord Palmerston from Mrs. Gladstone, informing his Lordship that her husband had received Dr. Ferguson's full permission to return to the House on the following day. Thus the question was set at rest. On Friday we need hardly say that the anxiety to get into the House was general and intense. There were "strangers" in attendance with orders as early as eleven o'clock, and long before the House opened the waiting-room was filled, and some forty or fifty people were ranged in St. Stephen's Hall. Many of these, of course, did not get in. They had members' orders; but orders, when there is no room, are as useless as a cheque upon a bank when there are "no effects." The Speaker's gallery was crammed as soon as it was opened; and as to the Peers, they came down in such numbers that, after the seats which are set apart for them were filled, they besieged the Ambassadors' gallery and filled up every available seat there, and even then many of them were obliged to stand in the passage at the back of the benches. Amongst the peers that were present we noticed particularly the venerable Lord Chancellor, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe; his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who commands our Forces; the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Duke of Somerset; his Grace the Duke of Argyll, who presides over our Post Office; Earl Granville, the Lord President of the Council; Earl Stanhope, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Earl De Grey and Ripon, Lord Chelmsford, Lord Wensleydale; the Earl of Derby, who for a time was obliged to stand; and last, though not least by a long way, Lord Brougham. The Foreign Ambassadors were not there in large numbers. Mr. Dallas was present, and two or three more, including Count Persigny; but the diplomatic body was not represented in such strength as it usually is on great occasions. Touching Lord Brougham we have to record a curious fact. The noble Lord left the Lower for the Upper House in 1832, twenty-eight years ago, and until that night had never honoured the scene of his former triumphs with his presence. Until Friday night he had never even seen the new House. Surely this is a strange fact. It would be interesting to know the reason why the noble Lord has never availed himself of his privilege of listening to the debates of that assembly in which he won his fame and honours. Lord Brougham sat in front of the Peers' gallery below, where a seat was courteously reserved for him by his brother peers, and for nearly four hours he listened attentively, and apparently with deep interest, to Mr. Gladstone's speech.

MR. GLADSTONE ENTERS THE HOUSE.

It was about 4.25 when Mr. Gladstone entered the House. At that time it was very full—indeed, such was the anxiety to secure comfortable places that many of the members were down as early as three o'clock. The lobby was also full of strangers; but the right honourable gentleman glided by the expectant crowd almost unnoticed. He was there and gone before the few strangers who knew him could recognise him. "That's Gladstone!" some one or two exclaimed, and every eye was turned to see him; but in a moment the right honourable gentleman vanished behind the doors. He did not walk up the floor of the House, but entered behind the Speaker's chair, and proceeded quietly to take his seat; but he was soon recognised, and then a hearty cheer burst from the Ministerial side. The Opposition, we need hardly say, did not cheer heartily. We cannot say that they offered no greetings, for there certainly was a faint cheer, which, being interpreted, seemed to say, "We are glad to see you are recovered from your illness, but what have you got in that red box of yours? we should like to know that before we accord you a hearty greeting."

MR. BERNAL OSBORNE STOPS THE WAY.

This was Friday night; and on Friday night, when the adjournment of the House till Monday is moved, there is usually a host of questions to be discussed. On this occasion there were some upon the paper, and among them one standing against the name of Mr. Bernal Osborne; and at the proper time Mr. Bernal Osborne arose to introduce it. Mr. Bernal Osborne is, as we all know, a very acceptable speaker in the House; not that the honourable member has anything very valuable to communicate, for he has not; nor that he ever succeeds in throwing much light upon the subjects on which he speaks. He is rather the rollicking merryman of the House than its teacher; and his speeches are looked upon as comic interludes, pleasant as varieties to relieve the dull tedium of prolonged business, but otherwise of not much value. But on this occasion the House had met for a serious and an important purpose, and was in no humour for fun. Later in the evening, when the real business of the night was over, Mr. Osborne might have been received with the usual cheers, and a speech from him, as a relief after four hours' tension of the mind, would probably have been hailed as a pleasant relaxation; but just then, when every member was all ear, all expectation, when the Peers and Commons of England—all the people of England, and, indeed, all Europe—were waiting to know what was to be our future fiscal policy, Mr. Osborne was unanimously voted a bore, as great a bore as an acrobat, Punch and Judy, or an organ-grinder would be opposite the window of the Bank parlour when a financial and commercial crisis is on, and the governors are anxiously debating the propriety of raising the discount another one per cent. And so, when Mr. Osborne rose, instead of being received with the usual cheers and laughter, he met with a storm of "Oh! oh! oh!" so loud and resolute that it cowed even him. "There is a time to be serious, and a time to laugh, Mr. Osborne; this is our serious time." And so Mr. Osborne sat down, not a little chagrined, we may be sure; but, if so, he owed his mortification to himself. How could he dream that the House would hear him, or anybody, when the great Chancellor was there with that ominous box of his before him—that box which by many was expected to prove a horn of plenty, and by others a very Pandora's box, without even hope at the bottom?

MR. GLADSTONE RISES.

Mr. Gladstone rose at about ten minutes to five. By his own side he was again greeted with loud and hearty cheers, while again on the Opposition there only arose here and there a faint and spiritless "Hear, hear!" The right hon. gentleman looked pale and haggard; appeared, moreover, not to be very firm upon his legs, and altogether seemed but little competent to perform the great task that was before him. Dr. Ferguson was under the gallery, and had his eye upon him, and no doubt must have been anxious for his patient as hour after hour he heard his voice and saw him upon his legs, and must have felt relieved when he saw him at last drop into his seat. But there was one present who would be more anxious than Dr. Ferguson, for in the ladies' gallery, peering through the brass screen, sat Mrs. Gladstone; and none can easily imagine how her anxiety would prevail over every other feeling as she watched, and watched, and carefully noted every apparent failure of her husband's voice, and every time that his eloquence was interrupted by his hollow cough.

THE APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE.—MINISTERIAL SIDE.

And now let us notice for a few minutes the appearance of the House as the Chancellor settles himself to his work and unfolds his scheme. He himself, the great orator of the night, stands upright, with his papers before him in the official box, pale and wan, but calm and collected. "What nerves the man must have!" said a friend to us. And the duty of Mr. Gladstone that night was indeed one that must have taxed his nerves severely; for it was not merely the House of Commons that was listening, but all Europe; and, indeed, if we reflect but a moment, we shall see that even future generations were to be addressed

that night; for the words of Mr. Gladstone will not, like most of the words which are uttered here, pass into oblivion as soon as uttered, but will become an historic record, and be read with interest and delight, and quoted as authorities, by ages yet unborn. When the cheering had subsided there was a slight coughing, as if the members were clearing their throats at the beginning that they might not offer any interruption thereafter; and then there was a rustling, which showed that every man was settling himself down into his easiest position. When the tones of Mr. Gladstone's voice were first heard there were cries of "Order, order!" to repress the rustling; and then followed profound silence. And now let us survey the House. Lord Palmerston, you see, settles himself down into an attitude of the closest attention. He does not lean back as he often does, but sits sideways, with his face turned to the Chancellor, and very happy he looks, as if he were conscious that his Chancellor is about to unfold a scheme of finance that will do credit to his Government. Lord John Russell leans backwards, as usual, with his hat over his eyes and his arms folded across his breast. Sir Charles Wood stares at the ceiling, and now and then shows signs of approbation by jerking his head, as is his wont. Mr. Sidney Herbert, as you see, stretches his long legs out before him and throws his head back upon the edge of the seat, looking as if he were lying upon an inclined plane, and has an air of supreme satisfaction. Gladstone and Sidney Herbert are both disciples of Sir Robert Peel; and, as the Chancellor further develops the political economy of their great master, it is not surprising that the Secretary at War should look pleased. Mr. Milner Gibson is not very demonstrative at any time; but, as Mr. Gladstone unfolds roll after roll of his vast scheme—and especially when he comes to the paper duties—are we wrong in interpreting that look of his as indicating a quiet inward chuckle? It seems to us as if he were saying to himself "Quæram pars magna fui." The gentleman who sits sideways, with his face towards the Speaker, at the further end of the Treasury bench, is Mr. Villiers. We can hardly see his countenance here; but when we remember how, year after year, before the League was formed, he attempted to plant the tree of free trade in an uncongenial soil, we can easily imagine his satisfaction at seeing, at last, these magnificent results of his patience and toil. Bright, on the first seat of the second bench below the gangway, is leaning back and looking upwards, evidently drinking in with quiet enjoyment every word that is said. He will himself have something to say on this subject before it is done with. Sir James Graham, who has lately shifted from No. 1 below to No. 1 above the gangway, reclines backward and stares into vacancy—very attentive, though, no doubt. Mr. Hadfield is right behind Sir James, on the top bench but one. His face is turned towards Gladstone, and he is unquestionably pleased that his sentiments are making such progress; for he, too, is an old Freetrader—so free, indeed, that he wishes to carry out his principles in matters ecclesiastical as well as fiscal; and sometimes, when the eloquent Chancellor hits more exactly, in his opinion, the nail upon the head, he utters a peculiar and expressive cheer.

THE OPPOSITION.

On the opposition side of the House the faces were not so radiant. Some of the members looked unmistakably displeased, others astonished, whilst on the countenances of not a few there was a puzzled air, as if the honourable gentlemen would hardly believe what they heard. Mr. Disraeli makes no sign. He has his thoughts, no doubt; but what they are no one can tell from his looks. Sir John Pakington shows more signs of life, but not much. Mr. Henley—"Old Henley," as he is here familiarly called—stares at the speaker with glass in his eye from beginning to end, and neither misses nor will he forget anything, as he will show you when the time comes. Already, no doubt, he has noted, or thinks he has, some opening in the panoply of this formidable foe, into which he hopes to thrust his lance. For a shrewd and able combatant is "Old Henley," and uncommon cunning of fence, and if there be a weak point in this budget we "rede he'll tent it." My Lord John Manners is a very prominent figure upon the Opposition bench. He, too, has his glass in his eye, through which he steadfastly gazes upon the speaker, and is evidently puzzled and perplexed—as perplexed as Dame Partlett is when she sees a duck chick dabble about in the water. This free trade is not at all his Lordship's element. Water to an old hen is not more foreign than free trade to a Manners. Ah! my Lord, that "commerce" which you sang about some years ago won't die yet, nor will it kill the "old nobility," but rather strengthen it, if your Lordship and the like of you will but let it. Mr. Walpole is always happy, and always looks the same, "whether he win or lose the game." Sir Bulwer Lytton is the odd man next to Disraeli, sitting on the very edge of the bench, with his head thrust forward, and making a trumpet of his hand to convey every word to his ear. Strange thoughts and misgivings must haunt Sir Bulwer, for he was a Whig once, but suddenly turned Tory when the battle for free trade came on. Ah! Sir Bulwer, you should have stuck to the old ship, and not intrusted your political fortunes to the crazy old barque "Protection." We don't see Lord Stanley here, but he is present somewhere, we may be sure. His Lordship is an unhappy case, we consider. His Lordship is currently pronounced "a failure"; and well may this be when, as we know, his aspirations are all one way, whilst a hard destiny has placed him in circumstances which compel him to pull another. There is only one more member of the Opposition whom we can notice, and that is Mr. Bentinck. You see that tall, strongly-built, florid-complexioned man with prominent eyebrows and bushy whiskers, almost a beard, sitting just below the gangway. That is Mr. Bentinck. There are two Mr. Bentincks in the House now, but this is the Mr. Bentinck. Mr. Bentinck is a member of the Portland family, representative of a younger branch, and descended from that friend and adviser of Dutch William who came over with his Majesty from Holland at the "glorious revolution." It is many years since the advent of the Dutchman, and the family is unquestionably English now, but in the person of our Mr. Bentinck the Dutch element has certainly cropped out. You see it in his face, in his face, and in his character. The special feature of Mr. Bentinck's character is that he never changes his opinion. All the world may change, and will change, but he never. As he was in the beginning so he is now, and so he would be a thousand years hence, if he could live so long. The human mind, as a rule, is always growing; and change—universal change—is the law of nature; but there is one thing in the world, it seems, that is an exception to the rule, and that is Mr. Bentinck—at least so he says; and if you look at him and hear him speak you will be disposed to believe him. Look at him as he sits opposite Gladstone. Every word he hears, but no impression is made, you can see. He has been in the House now eight years; he has in that time seen vast changes. All the dismal prophecies about the effects of free trade have failed; all the promises of its advocates have been realised; thousands of Protectionists have been converted, and the most eloquent advocates of monopoly have gradually been silenced; but there he sits, still unchanged and unchangeable. And when the debate upon the Budget comes on we shall hear him uttering the old fallacies and platitudes with as much solemnity and confidence as he did down in Norfolk a dozen years ago.

MR. GLADSTONE'S SPEECH.

We venture to express a hope that every Englishman will read this speech. Every Englishman ought to read it; for it is not only the greatest that Gladstone has delivered, but it is the greatest that has been delivered by any one in the House or out of it for many years. In whatever light we look upon it, it is a great speech. The scheme which is unfolded is one of the boldest, most comprehensive measures which has ever been propounded to the English Parliament, and is fraught with consequences which can never die except with the nation itself. We do not often offer a political opinion in these columns; but we cannot help saying that we look upon this budget of Gladstone as a magnificent argosy freighted with untold wealth, which is freely offered to the people. The manner in which Gladstone unrolled his prophetic scroll was something wonderful. Let our readers note the marvellous skill that there was in the gradual evolving and the grouping of his facts—the artistic way in which he made every statement seem naturally to lead to what was to follow—and everything that followed to be the natural consequence of that which had gone before. Remark,

further, those little picturesque touches of anecdote which he every now and then gave us; and, finally, by all means let all give themselves up to that magnificent peroration with which he closed. The effect of this speech upon the House was remarkable. There was but little cheering. The House was too deeply absorbed to cheer—too anxious to catch every word. For four hours did the great master hold the House as with a spell. During that time the dinner hour and the postal hour came and went, but no one moved; and through all those hours the House was as silent as a desert. Not a whisper nor a rustle was heard—nothing but the clear, musical voice of the speaker. Of course, at the close of the speech there was cheering, hearty, loud, and long-continued, and no wonder; for cold must have been the nature of the man who could listen to that wonderful peroration, delivered, as it was, with almost unequalled power and earnestness, without being moved.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY.

Lord Wodehouse laid the commercial treaty between France and England on the table.

FRANCE AND SAVOY.

Lord GRANVILLE, in reply to Lord Northampton, said there had been communications, but not of an official character, between this country and France upon the subject of the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.

Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition from the Rev. Bryan King in reference to the disturbances at St. George's-in-the-East. He prefaced the presentation of the petition with some strong remarks on the necessity of preventing these disgraceful proceedings and of preserving order and peace.

DIVINE SERVICE AT THE THEATRES.

Lord DUNGANNON postponed the motion of which he had given notice referring to the performance of Divine service at Sadler's Wells and other theatres by clergymen of the Church of England until Friday, the 24th inst. The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BUDGET.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made his financial statement. He commenced by alluding to the fact that in the present year a sum of two millions and a half of the interest of the National debt was about to lapse; the war duty on tea and sugar and the income tax also were about to cease. The receipts of the year were as follows:—Customs, £24,750,000; excise, £19,724,000; stamps, £8,000,000; land and assessed taxes, £3,200,000; income tax, £9,894,000; post-office, £3,250,000; crown lands, £280,000; miscellaneous, £1,408,000. The expenditure had been—interest on debt, £28,638,000; army, £13,550,000; navy, £12,630,000; civil service, £7,700,000; revenue departments, £4,475,000, which, with the miscellaneous charges, reached a sum of £68,953,000; which would, under ordinary circumstances, have left a surplus of £1,625,000. But there had been additional charges, arising out of the expedition to China—in the army of £900,000, and the navy £270,000. Then came the effect of the treaty with France, for which there was to be deducted from the customs £640,000. The total was £1,800,000, which would have placed the revenue on the wrong side of the account, but in a happy moment Spain had paid a debt of £500,000, of which £250,000 would be available at once, and so that a small surplus would still be left on the total revenue. The estimated charge for the interest of the debt in the coming year was £26,200,000, leaving £2,438,000, or more than the annuities which were about to lapse. The Consolidated Fund charges would be £2,000,000. The army, militia, and the charge for China would be £13,800,000, the navy and packet service, £13,900,000, or together £29,700,000, by an increase of more than three millions. The miscellaneous estimates were £3,500,000; the revenue departments, £4,700,000; the total being £70,100,000. With respect to the increase of the military expenditure, he would leave it to the Ministers for the two departments to explain the circumstances. The estimate of the income for the year in prospect, taking the imports as they now stood, was—Customs, £22,700,000; excise, £19,170,000; stamps, £8,000,000; taxes, £3,250,000; income tax, £2,200,000; with the post-office the total being £60,700,000; being a deficit of £9,400,000, and this without any provision for £1,000,000 coming due on Exchequer Bonds. Supposing that the existing war duties on tea and sugar were retained, the deficit would still be £7,300,000. That would require an income tax of 9d. in the pound, there being no remission of taxation in the trade and commerce of the country; but the £9,400,000 would require an income tax of 1s. in the pound. It might be asked, what had become of the calculations of 1853? His answer was that the succession duty had failed to produce what was expected; all surpluses in different years, by the intervention of war, had been stopped; and, besides, there was the charge for additional debt incurred by the Russian war, which amounted to £2,920,000. The alteration in the spirit duties, however, had added £2,000,000 to the revenue; and the revenue generally had been so increased that, if the expenditure had not rapidly increased also, the amount calculated in 1853 would have been realised. The answer was, in short, increased expenditure. The right hon. gentleman then compared the wealth of the country in 1842 and in 1853 with that in 1857-8 and 1859-60. In 1842 the annual income of the country was £154,000,000; in 1853, £172,000,000; in 1857-8, £191,000,000; and in 1859-60, £200,000,000, the increase having occurred in every class in the country, and in the agricultural class the most of all. In 1842 the gross expenditure of the country was £68,500,000; in 1853 it was £71,500,000; in 1859-60 it was £87,697,000, these totals including the local expenditure as well as that of the State properly so called, showing a gradual and large increase. The comparative growth of wealth and expenditure was therefore wholly unequal, and it showed the course which the country was pursuing—a course with which he was far from satisfied. It was, he urged, the duty of the Government to take further steps in the direction of relieving trade and commerce from imposts in pursuance of the principles of free trade, notwithstanding the unequal state of revenue and expenditure which existed. The right hon. gentleman then entered into calculations to show that remission of taxation had been accompanied by increase of revenue, consequent on the increase of trade and commerce. He did not propose to touch the taxes on tea or sugar, and they would be renewed, as they now stood, for one year. As to the treaty with France, that country was to reduce the duties on coal and iron in 1860; on yarn, flax, and hemp early in 1861. On the 1st of October, 1861, the duties would be reduced or prohibition removed from all British articles, so that no duty should be higher than 30 per cent *ad valorem*, all the staple manufactures of Britain being included. In three years afterwards the maximum duty was to be 25 per cent *ad valorem*. On her part England was engaged immediately and totally to abolish all duty on all manufactured goods from France, to reduce the duty on brandy to 8s. 2d. a gallon, on foreign wine (not merely French) to 3s. a gallon, and in 1861 still further, in reference to the strength of the wine, the lowest duty being 1s. per gallon. The charge on French articles chargeable with excise duty in England to be the same as the English duty. The treaty was to be in force for ten years. The reduction of duty on wine would cause a loss in revenue of £515,000; on brandy, of £225,000; on manufactured goods, of £440,000; making a total of £1,190,000. As to the objection that these were revenue duties, and did not relieve the poor man, not one of them was a revenue duty, but they were all protective duties. It was desirable to make such a bargain with France as would allow of the interchange of manufactures and commodities, which must largely increase when France was induced to break down her prohibitory system. What had been done would have been good for this country if France had done nothing; it was better for us in proportion as France did something. Wine was said to be the rich man's luxury, and tea the poor man's luxury; but in 1760 tea was the rich man's luxury, and sold at 20s. a pound. The consumption of foreign wines in this country had greatly increased, by at least 168,000 gallons in the last year, and concurrent with that there had been a large consumption of colonial wines and even of British wines. This showed a great demand for wine, and there was reason to believe that a greater production of wines fitted for the English market and the middle and lower classes of this country could be effected. The alteration in the tariff with France would tend greatly to facilitate personal intercourse with the Continent. It was proposed to reduce other customs duties to the extent of £910,100, but to supply that sum by other impositions on trade. The duties to be abolished were those on butter, tallow, cheese, oranges and lemons, eggs, &c., which amounted to £380,000 a year. There were to be reductions of duties on timber from 7s. 6d. to 1s. and 2s., on currants to 7s. a cwt., raisins to 7s., figs to 7s., and hops from 45s. to 14s., making £638,000—the total reduction being £1,039,000. The revenue, to compensate for this loss, would be sought in an extension of penny taxation, and there would be levied on all packages of imported articles a tax of one penny each, which would produce £300,000 a year. Moderate charges were to be laid on operations in the system of warehousing, a process which would simplify the system of inland bonding. This would produce £120,000. Then there would be a duty of 6s. a cwt. on chicory, yielding £90,000. There would be penny stamps and 3d. stamps on certain trade documents: eating-houses, including pastrycooks, would be allowed licenses to sell wine or beer. The duty on game certificates would be altered to a sliding scale according to time,

going down to £1. Among other things touched were agreements for leases, and some legal documents, and a stamp would be imposed on extracts from registry of births, deaths, &c. There would be a saving of expense in the Customs and Inland Revenue departments. Altogether, £982,000 would be restored to the general revenue. The loss to the revenue would be £2,146,000 by the French treaty and reductions of duties. Of this, half was redeemed by the above imposts. He then proceeded to say that he was about to propose the abolition of the excise duty on paper. That duty had been condemned by the House of Commons, and it was, besides, a bad and untenable duty. The capability of expansion of the trade in paper was immense, and the duty would be abolished from the 1st of July this year. It was proposed to abolish the impressed stamp on newspapers. As to hops, the system of hop credits would be altered. It was proposed to remit the prohibition on malt, and to fix a duty on it of 3s. a bushel. The alterations and reductions he had proposed would give a total relief to the consumer of £3,931,000, and cause a net loss to the revenue of £2,108,000, or about equivalent to the amount falling in from the cessation of Government annuities this year. The number of articles which would remain on the customs tariff would be forty-eight, and next year forty-four; spirits, tea, tobacco, sugar, wine, coffee, corn, curries, and timber being the principal, and only fifteen of the whole being retained for purposes of revenue. He expected to obtain £1,400,000 by taking up the malt and hop duties within the year. It was impossible to escape the income tax. In order to supply the remainder of the deficit of £9,100,000 that tax would be renewed at a rate of 10d. in the pound on incomes above £150 a year, at 7d. below that sum; the tax to be taken for one year only, three-quarters of the year's rate to be collected within the year, which would give a sum of £8,472,000; and this would bring the revenue up to the expenditure, or £70,100,000, and leave a surplus of £400,000.

Mr. Gladstone's speech occupied four hours in delivery. Then arose a smart discussion on the proposal of the Government to take up the discussion on Thursday (last). Mr. Disraeli, admitting the ability of Mr. Gladstone's statement, contended that a later day should be named for the debate. In this he was warmly backed by Mr. Eliot and Mr. Newdegate. Lord Palmerston then suggested Friday, which caused some merriment. Mr. Crawford, on behalf of the City, pleaded against delay. Mr. Newdegate again interposed. They should not be so eager to register the commands of France. This speech called up Lord John Russell, who denied that the treaty had been forced on the country, and significantly warned the House that, until the material points in the Budget are settled, he can do nothing with the Reform Bill.

Finally, it was agreed that the debate should begin on Monday next, and proceed day by day.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

INDICTABLE OFFENCES.

Lord CHELMSFORD, on moving the second reading of the Indictable Offences (Metropolitan Districts) Bill, explained the previous attempts at legislation on this subject, and said that the object of the bill was that no charge should be tried at the Central Criminal Court without previous investigation before a stipendiary magistrate—in fact, to abolish in the metropolitan districts the grand jury system, which had been stigmatised as "the hope of the London thief." The bill was read a second time.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.

Lord Ebury, in presenting a petition from the vestry of St. George's-in-the-East complaining of the grievances under which they labour, traced the origin of those grievances to the appointment of the present Incumbent, and by the adoption of ceremonies and dresses not in accordance with the Church of England. He trusted that Parliament would provide some means by which such unseemly disputes between a clergyman and his parishioners might be avoided for the future.

The Bishop of Exeter denied that the Rev. Bryan King had acted in opposition to the law; on the contrary, he had only fulfilled it.

Lord Brougham thought it was most disgraceful that such riots were not to be controlled by the law.

The Bishop of London remarked that there had been no disturbance in St. George's-in-the-East on the previous day, but he was sorry to say that the mode by which that event had been brought about was by the presence of sixty policemen inside the church.

After a short conversation between Lord Granville, the Lord Chancellor, and the Bishop of Exeter, the subject dropped.

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

Lord Ebury's motion for a statement of all alterations made in the Book of Common Prayer by the Queen's printer since Easter, 1859, by whose orders they were made, &c., was then agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

Mr. COCHRANE called attention to our relations with China. Our demands in 1857, he observed, were limited to the fulfilment of the treaty engagements and compensation for British losses; but, unfortunately, in 1858 Lord Elgin took a step further, and demanded from the Chinese Government the right to have a British Minister resident at the Court of Peking. This demand was the cause of all our present difficulties. It was intolerable to the Chinese, and their assent was only extorted from their fears. In order to establish this position, he gave, from the papers laid before the House, a narrative of the transactions preceding the attempt to force the passage of the Peiho, commenting, as he proceeded, upon the conduct of the several agents, and especially Mr. Bruce, who, he said, had not acted in the spirit of a Minister going to ratify a treaty of peace.

Sir M. SKYMOER expressed regret at the absence of some documents which, he said, would have enabled the House more completely and impartially to view the subject, which raised a very large question. To show what China really was, he adverted to the case of the *lorcha Arrow*, vindicating his own share in the transaction, and to the operations which followed, up to the capture of the Taku forts in May, 1858. However, he deprecated severe measures towards China, which was, he said, a weak State. He believed that it had never recovered the effects of the first war, and if hostilities were now carried beyond the necessity of the case there would be reason to deplore it, since a shock might be the result that would cause desolation and ruin to that empire.

Lord J. RUSSELL justified the conduct of Mr. Bruce, who had acted, he said, exactly according to his instructions. Supposing the Emperor of China to have been willing to ratify the treaty, there was no reason whatever why he should have objected to Mr. Bruce proceeding by the shortest route. Mr. Bruce had, without special orders or instructions, to decide the question whether he should pass the river by force, or desire the British Admiral to retire from a fort which had been taken with ease the year before. This was an alternative of great embarrassment. There were infinite difficulties on both sides, and her Majesty's Government felt it their duty to tell Mr. Bruce that their confidence in him was undiminished. He agreed with Sir M. Seymour that it would be wrong to press too severely upon China, and that our business there was commerce. At the same time, everybody he had consulted was of opinion that we should show that we were treating on equal terms with the Chinese, and were able to vindicate our honour. After the arrival of the next mail, which was shortly expected, he should be prepared to state the exact course which the Government proposed to pursue in the matter.

Sir J. PAKINGTON observed that there were several reasons why this was not a convenient moment to discuss our relations with China, and the assurance given by Lord J. Russell was an additional reason for refraining. He hoped the course taken by Government would be one of moderation.

Some remarks were made by Sir De L. EVANS, when

Lord PALMERSTON recommended the postponement of the discussion until the arrival of further accounts from China.

Sir C. Napier, Sir J. Elphinstone, Admiral Walcott, and Lord C. Paget continued the discussion, which was at length allowed to terminate.

THE TREATY.—THE ESTIMATES.

Mr. HORSMAN called attention to the article in the treaty with France offering, he said, a bonus on the export of coal from this country, which, it was computed, had a supply of coal for only three hundred years.

Other miscellaneous topics were brought forward.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS and Colonel SYKES inveighed against the increase in the Estimates.

Mr. LINDSAY considered the fault, if any, to be the fault of the House.

At length the SPEAKER was allowed to leave the chair, and the House having resolved itself into a Committee of Supply,

Lord C. PAGET moved

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

His Lordship said that, apart from the navies of other countries, it was necessary for this country, with her colonies and commerce, to keep up for the police of the seas a considerable naval service; and no disarmament of other countries would justify our denuding ourselves of a naval force. But still, we must also consider the state of the navies of other nations; nor should it be forgotten that the navy was in a state of new creation, in order to regain the superiority which the introduction of steam deprived us of. The French navy consisted of 32 ships of the line afloat and 5 building, 34 frigates afloat and 13 building, 5 iron-cased ships building, 17 corvettes afloat and 3 building, 39 gun-boats afloat and 29 building, four floating batteries afloat and others building, besides a large force of transports ready and in preparation. The total force was 244 steamships, for every one of which they could call men together in a month, so that none of them were actually in reserve. Russia had 187 steam-vessels afloat and 48 building. England had long endeavoured to establish reserves

of seamen, the last being the Volunteer Reserve, which had not been very successful. Our own force in commission was 27 line-of-battle ships, 43 frigates and corvettes, 94 small vessels and gun-boats, making 164 steamships manned, being an increase of 46 this year. There were also the guard-ships, making a total of 244 in December last, since which one line-of-battle ship and two frigates had been added. We had at home and in the Mediterranean 27 line-of-battle ships, 14 frigates and corvettes, and 49 sloops and gun-boats—total, 90; besides which we had 10 block-ships, with their tenders, all of which might be considered as for the defence of our coast. There were 55 vessels in China, besides which a large force was spread all over the world, including three line-of-battle ships. There were vessels not in commission 48 sail-of-the-line afloat and 11 building, 34 frigates afloat and 9 building, 9 block-ships afloat and 4 iron-cased ships building, 16 corvettes afloat and 5 building, 80 sloops afloat and 13 building, 27 small vessels afloat, 129 gun-boats afloat and 9 building, and 8 floating-batteries afloat. It was intended to launch this year 10 line-of-battle ships, 12 frigates, 4 iron-cased ships, 4 corvettes, 23 sloops, and 23 gun-boats. The vote for men asked for an increase of 8000 seamen, 1000 marines, 200 boys, and 700 coastguard men, making 11,700 in all, which were only just sufficient to man the ships in commission, and retain a reserve of seamen in the home ports amounting to 10,000. Having entered into the details of this vote, and passing over that for virtualising, the noble Lord passed to vote 3, which showed an increase of £11,000 for the Admiralty, principally caused by the employment of extra clerks. The Admiralty would be ready to grant an inquiry into the expenditure of the dockyards, which were not in a satisfactory condition. With regard to the volunteer reserve of seamen, there was a delusion on the part of sailors that they were to be kidnapped, and sent into the navy; but there was no intention of calling them out except in case of emergency. But, even if there was such an intention, they were not required, for the complement of our ships was full, and there was no want of sailors for manning our fleets. The noble Lord went minutely through each vote, pointing out the increase in each. Among other things he showed that in the last year the Admiralty had built in the dockyards 36,268 tons of ships of war, and they proposed to build this year 39,934 tons. They were building steam-engines to the extent of 18,200 horse power. There were four iron-cased ships building; two of them of 6039 tons and 1200 horse power, and two smaller, of 3268 tons each. The total cost for building by contract was £1,355,807, including machinery, over and above the ships building in the dockyards. He concluded by moving the first vote of £5,500 men and boys for the fleet and coastguard service, including 18,000 marines.

Sir J. PAKINGTON expressed his satisfaction at the statement of Lord C. Paget, and after some discussion the vote was agreed to, as well as a vote of £3,476,757 for wages of seamen and marines, and another of £1,458,057 for victuals for the same.

After some further business the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

Lord NORMANBY moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for a copy of any instructions from the Secretary of State to the British Chargé d'Affaires at Florence to attend the official reception, on the 1st of January, of Signor Buoncompagni, now acting as Governor-General of Tuscany; also for a return of the dates of all communications between the Secretary of State and the British Ambassador at Paris on the subject of the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France up to the 1st of January last. He prefaced his motion with a strong attack upon the Sardinian Government for their arbitrary conduct in Central Italy, and denied that the present Government in Central Italy and the Duchies was the choice of the population, who, he said, were in a state of discontent. He expressed his opinion of Signor Buoncompagni in the strongest terms of reprobation, and asked if it were fitting that her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Florence should have been directed to pay his official court to such a man, and why a departure from the usual line of proceedings in such matters should have been ordered in this particular case?

Lord GRANVILLE defended Signor Buoncompagni and the Italian people from the attacks of Lord Normanby.

Lord MALMESBURY said it was his sincere wish that Italy should be made an independent nation, strong enough to assume a place among the great European Powers, but he did not wish to see that end compassed by the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France.

Lord CLANRICARDE thought it would be impossible in the present state of European feeling to effect the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France. He then examined in detail the speech of Lord Normanby, and from his own experience contradicted the statement that the Italians were discontented with the present state of things. The atrocities of the Italians, which Lord Normanby had so strongly vituperated, were not entirely without a precedent; the Austrians had committed cruelties which were not to be forgotten. The fiscal burdens under which the subjects of Sardinia groaned, according to Lord Normanby, were as nothing compared to the taxation endured by Venetia, which, in fact, was absolute confiscation. In short, he dissented from the speech of Lord Normanby in almost every particular.

Lord DERNY asked whether the papers to be laid on the table of the House would contain the latest information on the subject of the negotiations with respect to the annexation of Savoy and Nice, and whether Lord Granville would point out in what view her Majesty's Government regarded the project? He also wished to know whether there had been any communications between the two Governments since the despatch of July last (when the project of the annexation of Savoy and Nice was denied) which would lead her Majesty's Government to infer that a change had occurred in the views of the French Government? If any such correspondence had taken place he must say that her Majesty's Government, while they had adhered to the letter of the truth, had at the same time made a statement calculated to mislead. With regard to Signor Buoncompagni, he wished to know whether it was a fact that Mr. Corbett had attended his receptions, and whether, if he had done so, it was in opposition to the views of the representatives of other Courts, and to the instructions he had received from his Government?

Lord GRANVILLE said that he stated last week the most recent communications which had taken place between the French and British Governments upon the annexation of Savoy and Nice. With regard to the second question of Lord Derby, Mr. Corbett, her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, had received no instructions whatever, except to treat Signor Buoncompagni as he had treated his predecessors.

After a desultory conversation, in which Lords Wodehouse, Ellenborough, Normanby, and Clanricarde took part, the motion for the first return was withdrawn, and the motion for the second—extended in order to include communications from the accession of the present Government up to the present time—was agreed to.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MAYNOOTH GRANT.

Mr. SPOONER moved a resolution—"That this House do resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Acts for the Endowment of the College of Maynooth, with a view to the withdrawal of any endowment of the Consolidated Fund, due regard being had to vested rights and interests." He renewed this motion, he said, under the continued conviction that the endowment of Maynooth was a national sin, which, in his opinion, was now bringing forth fruits in Ireland in the mischievous proceedings of the priests educated at the college against the Protestant reformed religion as by law established; and, unless steps were taken to stop them, he warned the House that the consequences would be far more serious. He proceeded to cite from speeches and evidence of Roman Catholic prelates and others, with the view of showing that the priests educated at Maynooth were virtually paid for disseminating doctrines and opinions subversive of allegiance and the loyalty they owed to the Throne. He charged them with teaching these and other mischievous doctrines, challenging any one to deny the facts he stated.

Mr. R. LONG seconded the motion. After some discussion the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 186 to 128.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES.

Mr. POLLARD-URQUHART moved an address to her Majesty praying that she will withhold her consent from certain portions of the statutes of Trinity and St. John's Colleges, Cambridge, now before Parliament, relating to the compulsory ordination of the College Master, the compulsory celibacy of the Senior Fellows, the removal of Fellows who may have openly seceded from the Church of England, the filling up of the vacant places in the seniority by the Master and the remaining Seniors, and the delegating to the Master and Seniors exclusively all rules respecting the attendance of the Undergraduates who are not members of the Church of England at the College Chapel; and to give directions to refer the statutes to the Cambridge University Commissioners. He argued that these portions of the statutes were not only unjust in themselves, but prejudicial to the interests of the University, and that it was a bad principle to hold out rewards and prizes for the profession of certain opinions, which, while repelling conscientious men, attracted persons indifferent to religion.

Mr. BAINE seconded the motion.

Lord STANLEY (a member of the Commission) said if it were wished to raise the question as to the expediency of confining fellowships to members of the Church of England, the proper mode was by introducing a bill for the purpose. Other portions of the motion regarded internal regulations of the colleges, which did not involve any important principles. He should vote against the motion.

After some remarks by Mr. Walpole, Mr. Briscoe, and Mr. Newdegate, the motion was withdrawn.

The House, after some further business, adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.

Mr. MELLOR, in moving that the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act (1854) Amendment Bill be read a second time, said that, unless Parliament did something to show it was in earnest in the matter, he feared that representative institutions would become the scorn of Europe. He proceeded to explain the various provisions of the measure, summing up its main objects—namely, first, to make the punishment for bribery a degrading one, by giving a discretionary power to the Judge upon conviction to add to the other penalties a sentence of hard labour; secondly, to increase and facilitate the means of detection; and, thirdly, to provide against the payment of any expenses save through the election agent and election auditor, and against the employment of voters. He offered this, he said, not as a final but as a provisional measure, which would strike at the root of the evil.

Mr. HUNT supported the second reading of the bill, but objected to some of its provisions.

Sir F. GOLDENID strongly objected to those provisions of the bill which proposed to enact a severe penalty for bribery, arguing, from the example of the operation of our criminal law prior to its mitigation, that heavy punishments, being relaxed in practice, became ineffectual.

Mr. STEUART advocated certainty rather than severity of punishment.

To some of the provisions he offered objections.

Mr. COLLIER said the House was not called upon to do too much in being invited to affix to the crime of bribery a maximum punishment of imprisonment for six months, with hard labour, at the discretion of the Judge. This provision of the bill was extremely important, and if the House, deeming the offence a degrading one, refused to stigmatise it by a degrading punishment, it would be open to the reproach of not being in earnest. He suggested improvements of the measure, one of which was the appointment of a public prosecutor for the offence of bribery.

Sir G. GREY said that the House, in order to legislate satisfactorily on this subject, must have a searching inquiry into the operation of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, and the measures necessary to be taken for putting a stop to bribery. After reviewing the three main enactments of the bill, and expressing a doubt whether superadding hard labour to the penalties of fine and imprisonment would affix a more degrading character to the offence, he suggested that, instead of affirming the principle of the bill by reading it a second time, it should be referred, with the whole subject, to a Committee.

After some remarks by Mr. Macaulay and Mr. M. Milnes, Mr. MELLOR adopted the suggestion of Sir G. Grey, and withdrew his motion for the second reading of the bill.

Mr. JAMES moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation and effect of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, and also whether any further measures are necessary for the prevention of corrupt practices at elections.

Mr. SEARANT KINGLAKE seconded the motion, which gave rise to a renewal of the debate upon the whole subject of the preceding motion. Mr. Philipps, Mr. Fuller, Mr. W. Martin, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Angerstein, and other members taking part in it. The motion was agreed to.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD moved the second reading of the Adulteration of Food or Drink Bill, which was read a second time, after a few remarks by Mr. JAMES and Sir G. GREY.

COMMISSION ON AN IRISH MAGISTRATE.

Colonel DUNNE moved for a copy of the commission for an inquiry into the conduct of Mr. Balfe, a magistrate of the county of Roscommon, accused of having committed a criminal offence (subornation of perjury, attempted personation at the late election for Roscommon), together with the report of the Commissioner and correspondence connected therewith. Colonel Dunne prefaced the motion with a statement of the details of the case, complaining generally of the illegality of this and similar commissions. The motion was agreed to.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE TREATY OF COMMERCE WITH FRANCE.

The Earl of AIRLIE moved for copies of any correspondence (in addition to that already presented to Parliament) which may have taken place between her Majesty's Government and her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries in Paris respecting the negotiation of the Treaty of Commerce with France. After some conversation the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice of his intention, on the 1st of March, to introduce a bill to amend the representation of the people of England and Wales.

AMERICAN COASTING-TRADE.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. Liddell, said that the law officers of the Crown had been consulted upon the American law of 1848, which gave exclusive privileges to American vessels engaged in the trade between New York and California, and they gave it as their opinion that it could not properly be called a coasting-trade. Nevertheless, British and foreign ships were excluded from any participation in this trade, notwithstanding the professions made in 1849, on the occasion of the repeal of the Navigation Laws, when Mr. Bancroft, the then Minister of America here, stated to the President of the Board of Trade, "if you give little, we will give little—if you give much, we will give much—if you give all, we will give all." In 1854 we threw open our coasting-trade, and we asked the American Government to give us the same privilege. That Government, however, replied that by the terms of their Constitution they could not grant us a share in their coasting-trade.

THE RUSSIA COMPANY'S DUES.

Mr. M. GIBSON, in reply to Mr. Hubbard, said from communications received it appeared it was not the intention of the Russia Company any longer to place dues upon the imports of the United Kingdom.

THE ANNEXATION QUESTION.

Sir R. PEEL asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether her Majesty's Government have any objection to state the nature of the communications which have passed between the Sardinian and British Governments with respect to the cession of a portion of the Sardinian territory to France; and, also, whether her Majesty's Government have had occasion to communicate to the French Government the opinion entertained by other Powers on this subject; and whether, in the event of the annexation of Savoy to France being effected, her Majesty's Government are prepared to abandon the neutrality of Switzerland, as guaranteed by Great Britain in common with other European Powers?

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the Sardinian Government, in reply to a communication from her Majesty's Government, stated that there was no engagement entered into to yield Savoy to France, and that they disapproved of such an arrangement. With regard to the neutrality of Switzerland, her Majesty's Government had been asked by the Government of that country whether they were prepared to maintain the guarantee of its neutrality as settled by the treaty of 1815, and they had always said they were prepared to do so. He had been given to understand that, in the event of any accession taking place, both Sardinia and Switzerland were of opinion it would be desirable that some portion of the province should be ceded to Switzerland. He was a little afraid that, elated at the prospect of aggrandisement, Switzerland might seek the annexation of the entire province of Savoy. He was, however, happy to state that he had that day been informed that neither Switzerland nor Sardinia were at all desirous that any such annexation should take place.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD asked the noble Lord whether he had received any information from Turin respecting a communication having been addressed to the Sardinian Government by the Emperor of the French to the effect that in the event of a portion of Central Italy being annexed to Piedmont, it would be necessary for the French troops to enter Savoy, in order to preserve the French frontier.

Lord J. RUSSELL said he had been given to understand that the Emperor of the French had said that, in the event of the provinces of Central Italy being annexed to Sardinia, so as to make it a large and powerful kingdom, he should not think the French frontier secure unless Savoy were included within it (Sensation).

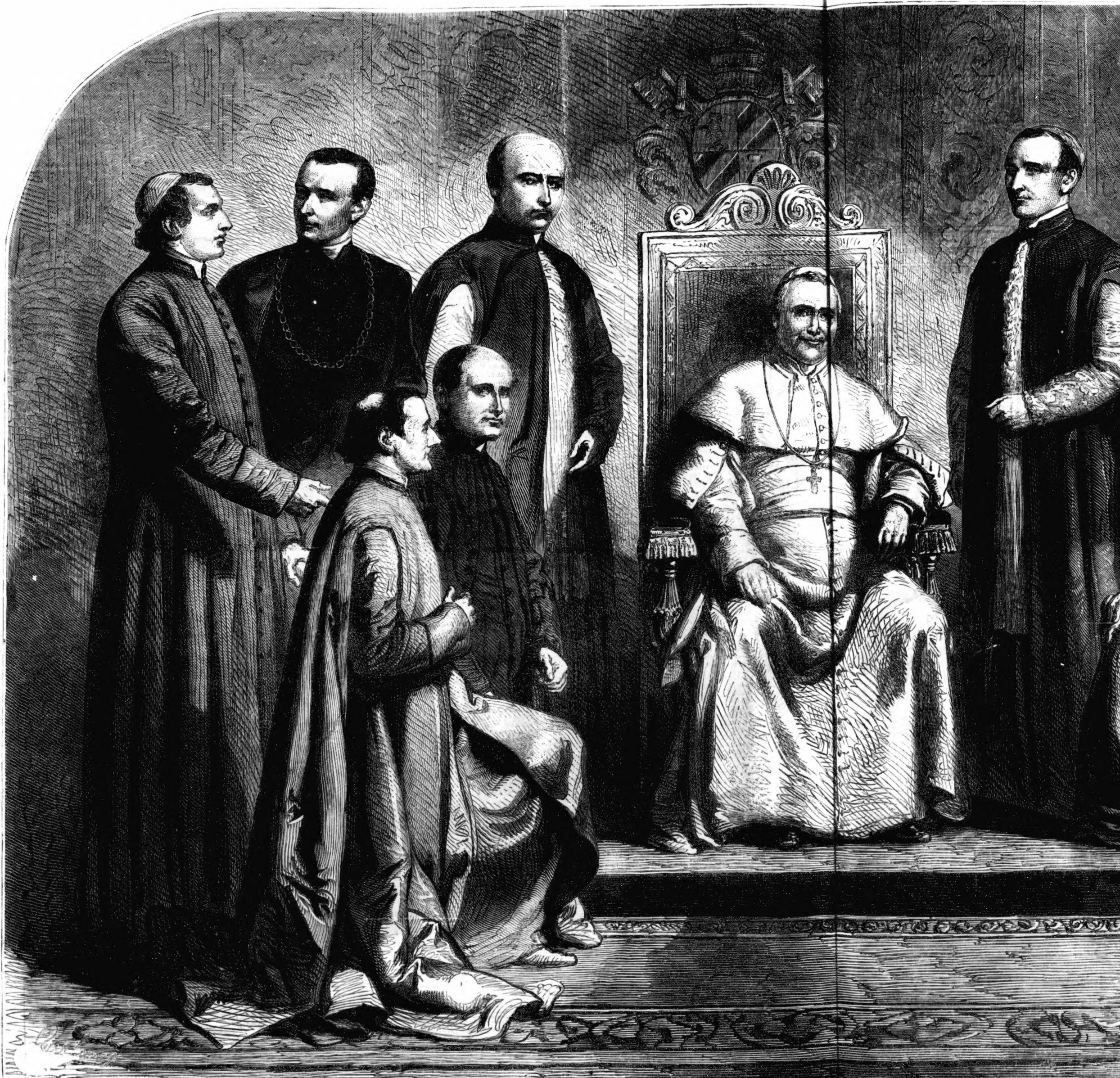
MANNING THE NAVY.

Sir C. NAPIER moved "That, in the opinion of this House, the recommendations of the Commissioners on manning the Navy ought to be taken into consideration by her Majesty's Government, with a view to carry out the principles of such recommendations."

FLOGGING IN THE ARMY AND NAVY.

Mr. WILLIAMS, having moved for returns on this subject, called attention to this practice with a view of showing that the punishment had increased within the last year in both services, and that it ought to be given up. The motion, in a modified form, was agreed to.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.—The Boston Board of Trade has adopted a memorial to the President, suggesting that he tender the mediation of the United States' Government to England, France, and China, for the amicable adjustment of the difficulties arising out of the battle of the Peiho. The *New York Herald* "learned by late advices that the Chinese Government contemplated appealing to our Minister, Mr. Ward, to obtain the mediation of the United States; and we think that the President ought to tender it to the three Governments in this emergency, although we would not urge an infraction of the general policy of non-interference so judiciously adopted by our Government."



SIGNOR BORROMEO. MONSIGNOR HOHENLOWE. MONSIGNOR CENNI. MONSIGNOR TALBOT. MONSIGNOR FAVA

FIG. IX.
POPE PIUS IX. SURROUNDED BY HIS INTIMATE FRIENDS.

MONSIGNOR MARULLI.

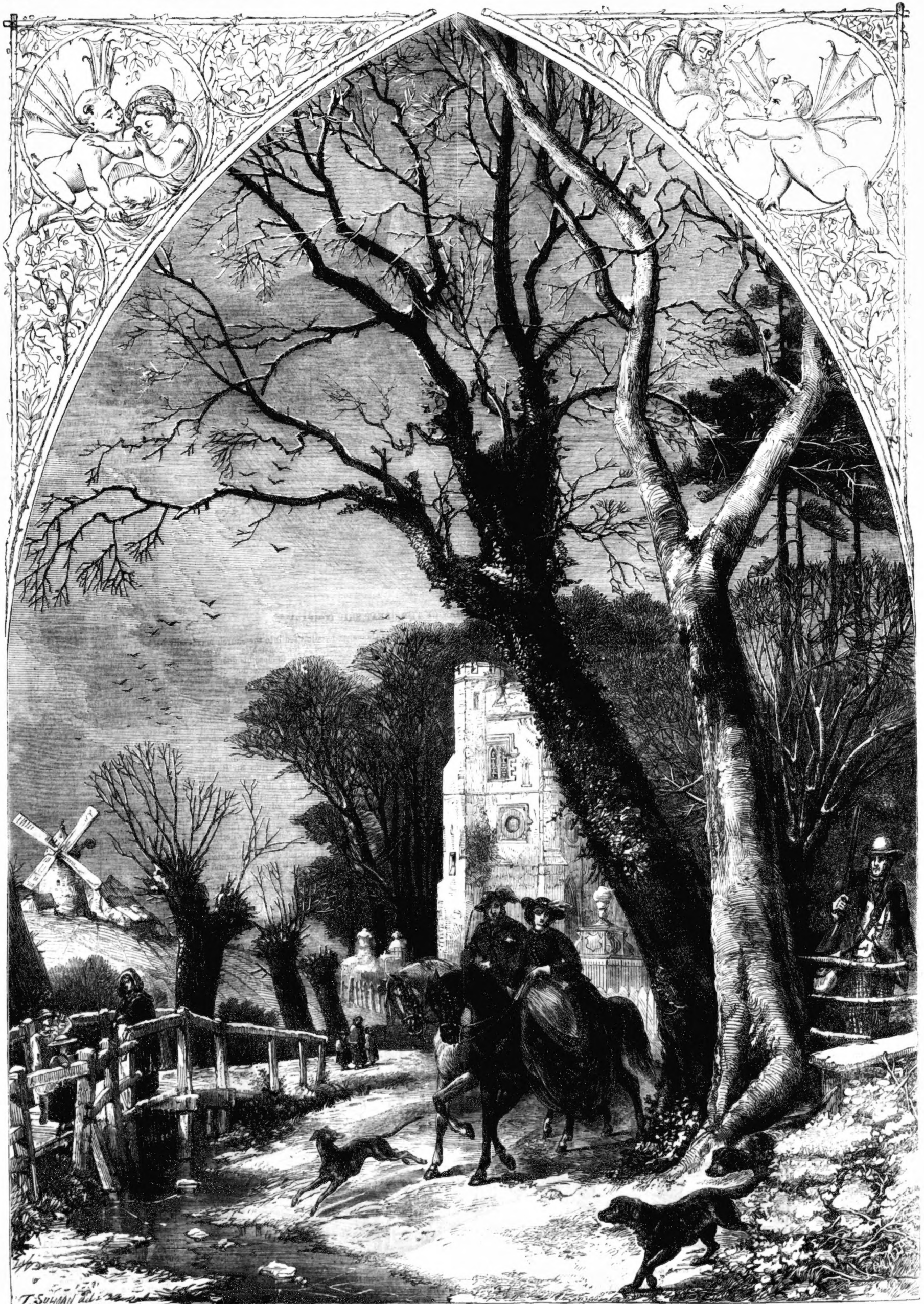


MONSIGNOR MARUCCI.

MONSIGNOR DE MERODE.

MONSIGNOR RICCI.

MONSIGNOR STELLA.



A WINTER SCENE: FEBRUARY, 1860.

MR. R. R. CAMPBELL.

MR. CAMPBELL, late Chairman and Managing Director of the Great Ship Company, is the son of Rupert Campbell, Esq., of Reay-bank, Moray, and was born in 1813. At a very early age he took service in one of her Majesty's regiments, with which he proceeded to India, where, opportunities occurring for adopting a more promising career, he retired from the Army, and became an indigo planter and merchant in Bengal, whence he returned to England a few years ago a wealthy man. At home he continued his mercantile pursuits, and was one of the first founders of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, which was formed with reference to the construction of the great ship, and through all her variations of fortune he has steadily adhered to his connection with her until within the last few days, when a change in the directors has caused him to resign the office of chairman he so long held. In 1857 Mr. Campbell was elected member of Parliament for the borough of Weymouth, but did not succeed in being returned at the general election of 1859.

THE DOOMSDAY BOOK.

THE Domesday Book, known also as "The Book of Winchester" and "The Book of the King's Treasury," is the great register from which, in ancient times, judgment was given upon the value, tenure, and services of all lands therein described; or, in other words, it is the record of the great survey which William the Conqueror caused to be made of the kingdom some years after his accession to the English crown. This famous record has, therefore, at all subsequent times been regarded as the most interesting and important of all our public registers. Although various interpretations have been given to the name, there can be little doubt but that the term "Domesday Book," from its etymology, means "Book of Judgment;" its derivation from "Domus Dei" will not stand the test of historical criticism. From this book there was no appeal, and even the King himself was bound by its decisions. The circumstances under which the great survey was made are these:—Nearly fifteen years after the Conquest, in the year 1081, William the Conqueror, who had already rewarded his followers by distributing amongst them the greater portion of his new territories, retaining, of course, the lion's share for himself, was anxious to take stock of his English dominions, so as to ascertain the exact quantity, quality, and value of the lands held by his great nobles and their sub-tenants, and by the Church, including conventual and monastic holdings. His primary object seems to have been to ascertain the nature and extent of the services and revenues (of divers kinds) to which he was entitled on the part of his chief tenants and others, according to the character and condition of their several tenures, in which there was almost infinite variety; and, subsidiary to the above, to ascertain what the general wealth of his kingdom consisted of, and what was the number and condition of all ranks and classes of his subjects. To effect this purpose he appointed five Commissioners, or, as they were called, "Justiciaries," for each county, who had authority to summon before them the lords of manors, the sheriffs, the presbyters of churches, the reeves of hundreds, and the bailiffs, together with six villains from every village, and to examine them respectively upon oath as to the name of the place, who held it in the time of Edward the Confessor, and what its value was at that time, and now, and if its value was susceptible of increase; also, who its present holder was, and by what right or service he held it; what was its extent in carucates, distinguishing meadow, pasture, woodland, waste, and tillage; what mills and fishponds there were; what live stock of all kinds; how many ploughs and teams; how many serfs attached to the soil, and how many servile tenants of all kinds, such as villains, cottiers, and borderers, there were, and whom they served?

This survey extended over the whole of the kingdom, excepting the four northern counties of Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Durham, and also parts of Lancashire, all of which had been so much devastated by the Conqueror in consequence of the insurrections of the inhabitants, that the district was not worth the trouble of surveying.

The whole kingdom was divided into upwards of sixty thousand knights' fees, held in various proportions by the chief tenants, who, however, instead of rendering military service in all cases, according to their tenure, often compounded with the King by pecuniary and other payments, as did also the inferior tenants to the tenants *in capite*.

When the Commissioners had completed their survey they sent their inquiries or returns to Winchester, where they were condensed and abridged as much as possible, previously to being entered in the doomsday register. At the beginning of each county is a list of the chief tenants, including the King himself, who held manors in almost every

county in England, together with the Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, and other great barons. All the entries are made in Latin, nearly every word of which is abbreviated, so as to save space—a circumstance which renders it impossible for any but adepts in ancient caligraphy to decipher the text of Domesday. *Au reste*, the writing is in a fine, bold, regular, upright hand; every word is legible, and the parchment is in such a good state of preservation that it is likely to last for a thousand years to come, although now nearly eight hundred years old. Domesday Book is comprised in two volumes, of which the lesser contains the survey of Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk only. These volumes are supposed to have been originally kept at Winchester, and subsequently at Westminster. They were deposited in the Chapterhouse at Westminster, with other Exchequer records, for the last one hundred and fifty years or so, until last summer, when the whole were transferred to the new Record Repository, in Fetter-lane.

It may be right to mention that the Domesday was printed in the year 1783, and that for all practical purposes the printed volumes, to be found in all public libraries, are as useful as the original.

THE RELIGIOUS DISSENSIONS IN ST. GEORGE'S IN-THE-EAST.

FIFTY policemen were marched into St. George's Church before the services on Sunday last, and the result was—no disturbance. On previous occasions the constables occupied pews, and bore the character of worshippers. On Sunday they were policemen, and nothing else. They

admitted into the church may easily be kept in check by the presence of a few constables." What a position for a minister of the gospel!—anxious to close his doors to all but a knot of listeners in order that, under the protection of policemen's staves, he may indulge in the ceremonies which are the delight of his little theological clique! On the 11th of June Mr. King announced his intention of closing the church altogether, and closed it was accordingly until late in the autumn.

When the church was reopened the disturbances gradually recommenced. The presence of thirty policemen kept them for a time within bounds, but the employment of this large number of men was found to interfere with the regular duties of the force, and on the 24th of December Sir R. Mayne wrote to Mr. King, stating that after the next Sunday the police could not be sent into the church. "I consider it my duty," writes Sir R. Mayne, "to represent earnestly and respectfully to you my opinion, that the attempt to enforce even the external decorum of the congregation by the presence of police or by the infliction of penalties will not be successful." The Commissioner continues by advising the Rector to make concessions to his congregation. In reply Mr. King writes, "The question, I presume, is, not whether the services of the Church are to be altered at the wishes of a few profane rioters, but whether I and my brother clergy and congregation are to be protected in the discharge of our lawful duties, and in the enjoyment of our undoubted legal privileges."

Between the Rector and his partisans and the parishioners and the mob Sir R. Mayne seems to have had enough to do. Mr. Frederic Stutfield, "principal chorister," was hissed by some

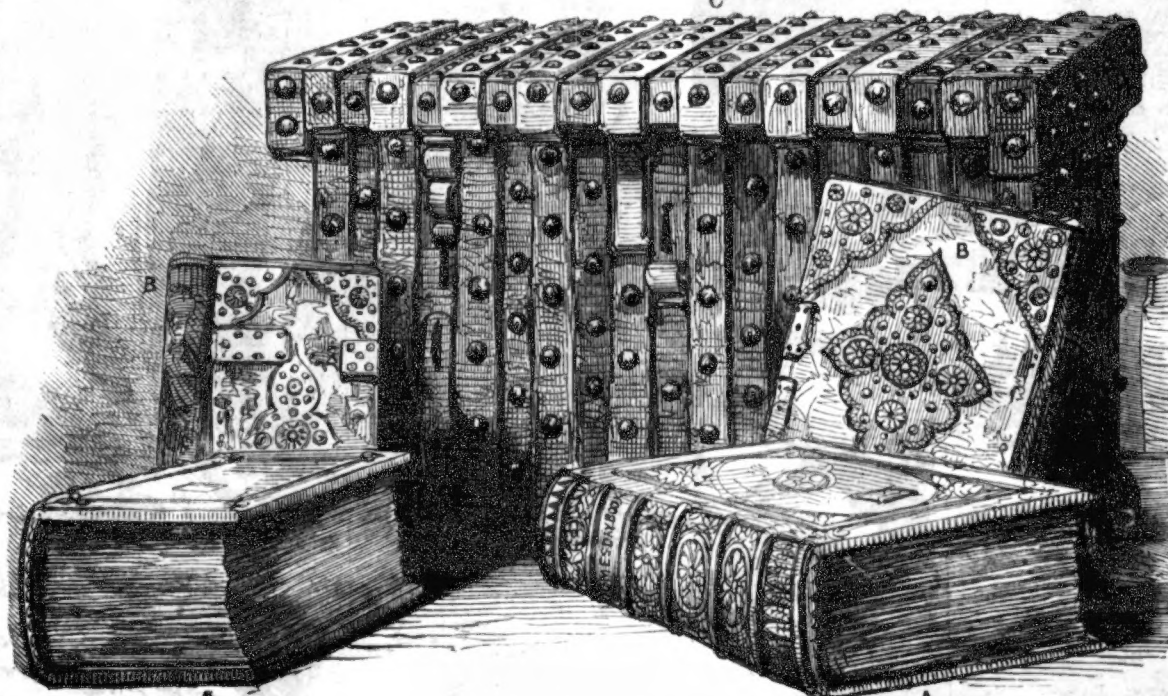
boys, according to the police, and pelted with orange-peel, stones, and clay pipes, according to his own version, and he straightway applies to the Commissioner in order to have an increase of constables in the vicinity of the church. Dr. Wilson complained that the police did not do their duty; but it is admitted by Mr. Stutfield that "Dr. Wilson was in a violent passion," and "made use of language likely to excite the people who had followed him." Mr. Maconochie, the Curate, also writes to the Commissioner to "draw his attention to the state of Cannon-street every evening after evening service." In fact, the whole set were at open war with the parish, and the disreputable mob took advantage of their unpopularity.

Then comes a correspondence about the number of friends whom the Rector admitted into the church, and about a stone which broke one of the rectory windows. Somebody told Inspector Allison that the stone was originally thrown from the rectory, of course by one of the Rector's friends, and it broke the window when it was thrown back again. On this important subject there is a special report from the Superintendent of the K division, and a warm letter from Mr. Bryan King to Sir R. Mayne.

There is a long correspond-



ROBERT ROY CAMPBELL, ESQ., LATE CHAIRMAN OF THE GREAT SHIP COMPANY.



A. A. The Domesday Book in its modern binding.

B. B. The ancient binding.

C. Iron chest in which the books were formerly kept.

DOOMSDAY BOOK, RECENTLY REMOVED TO THE RECORD OFFICE.

ence with the Home Office to the same effect as that with the Commissioner of Police, and we have the history of Mr. Lowder catching Mr. Jones in the church-door by the coat-tail, and being fined 2s., together with a learned opinion of Dr. Phillimore and Mr. Coleridge thereon. But we have given enough for the public to see what evil has been wrought by caprice and obstinacy in this unfortunate parish.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

M. GOUNOD'S mass, written in honour of Cecilia's Day, which is always celebrated in Paris at one of the principal churches with a grand musical service, was performed last Wednesday for the first time in England at St. Martin's Hall. We do not think it will be often repeated, as, in spite of a certain religious fervour which characterises portions of the work, it is generally unmelodious, while in some of the movements the composer is emphatic even to noisiness, and to express his intense devotional feelings has frequent recourse to the cymbals and big drum. Nevertheless, two of the movements, the "Agnus Dei" and the "Sanctus," possess much beauty, especially the former, in which the opening strain for the tenor, afterwards taken up (after a well-known model) and repeated fortissimo by the chorus and all the principal singers, was particularly admired.

Mr. Howard Glover's annual concert, at which every artist of distinction now in London will appear, is announced for Monday next at Drury-lane Theatre, and will certainly be one of the most interesting entertainments of the season.

Our readers may remember that last season, when the Vocal Association gave, for the first time, the "Ave Maria" and the finale from Mendelssohn's uncompleted opera of "Loreley," much surprise was expressed at the right of performing the "Ave Maria" having (as was announced) been assigned exclusively to that society. At the same time several journalists called attention to the fact that Mendelssohn's family possessed a number of that master's unpublished manuscripts, among others "The Reformation Symphony," which Mendelssohn considered one of the best of his orchestral works, and the sketches of the oratorio of "Christus," and of the before-mentioned opera of "Loreley." At the recent annual meeting of the Musical Society of London it appeared from the report of the council that it had endeavoured to procure for the world "the removal of the prohibition against the performance and publication of some of the works of Mendelssohn which the brother of the composer, taking unwarrantable advantage of his sole possession of these invaluable legacies to mankind, thinks fit to impose." The efforts of the council were fruitless. M. Paul Mendelssohn dallied with them for many months, and finally decided to withhold these great art-treasures, assigning for thus arbitrarily depriving us of what we justly inherit from a man of genius—the enjoyment of his creations—some domestic reasons which the council did not communicate to the meeting. The *Musical World*, which has published an excellent article on the subject, tells us that it was urgently pressed, even by some members of the council (who appeared to think less unfavourably than their coadjutors of the measures of M. Paul Mendelssohn, and to desire to allow him, at the least, the justice of making known his assumed motives for these), that the entire correspondence between the council and this gentleman should be read, and thus the views, however unsatisfactory, be communicated which induce the possessors to withhold the compositions from the public.

A majority of the meeting decided that what had passed between the council and M. Paul Mendelssohn need not be made public, "and the unconcern of the meeting," says our contemporary, "may be interpreted as tacitly expressing—first, a vote of censure upon the council for having interfered in a matter in which, as the executive of the Musical Society, they were unauthorised to act; secondly, an acknowledgment that the family of Mendelssohn were believed to have reasons for the suppression of the works of their immortal relative which would not bear to be made generally known; thirdly, that the musicians of London, as represented by the thousand and a half of them who constitute the Musical Society (which numbers 1450 members), are carelessly apathetic to the best interests of the art it should be their duty to uphold, being indifferent to the works of a great master and regardless of his reputation." The only mistake the council made, as it appeared to us, was in not publishing the correspondence between themselves and M. Paul Mendelssohn in the report, and they could afterwards, if it would have been any gratification to them to do so, have taken the opinion of the meeting as to the propriety of their conduct. The *Musical World* errs slightly when it speaks of the "thousand and a half" members of the society as musicians, for many of them are amateurs—that is to say, imperfect musicians, or perhaps merely frequenters of concerts and tea parties, at which musicians love to congregate. Others, again, are only fiddlers and teachers of the pianoforte—estimable persons no doubt, but whose opinions should not be allowed to influence the council, which includes a number of the most distinguished musicians and composers of the day. "The meeting," according to our contemporary, "may be considered as having publicly signified that the only objects of the Musical Society are to give concerts on more or less the same scale as the two Philharmonics, respectively, of Mr. Anderson and Dr. Wyld; to have trials of unheard compositions on a much smaller scale than the British musicians; to support a singing class more numerous, but less efficient, than Mr. Henry Leslie's choir or the Polyhymnia, less elementary than Mr. Hullah's, and greatly inferior in extent to the Handel Festival Choir; and, finally, to give levithan tea parties in St. James's Hall, at which the rankness of the butter and the meagreness of the beverage appeared to have been the chief subjects of comment;" whereas "to strive for the welfare of music by endeavouring to increase the store of rich treasures which are open to its lovers is implied to be beyond the limits of the society's operations." Members whose talk is of rank butter and of meagre beverages should have no voice in the management of the affairs of the Musical Society, which is an excellent institution, inferior in some particulars to many of the societies mentioned by the *Musical World*, but, viewed as a whole, superior to all of them. We may here mention that the report of the council spoke of the eminent success which had attended the series of four concerts given last season, and it justly ascribes this success, in a great measure, to the excellence of the orchestra, and to the admirable conducting of Mr. Alfred Mellon. The report also spoke in high terms of the gratuitous services of Mr. Henry Smart as chorus-master; and it mentioned as a distinguishing feature of the concerts the inclusion in each of the programmes of one or more works of resident English or foreign composers.

The Songs of Beethoven, with the Original Text, edited and adapted to English Words. By WILLIAM HILLS.

The "Songs of Beethoven," strange as it may appear, have never yet been collected under one head; nor will this collection of Mr. Hills supply the deficiency. Mr. Hills' volume contains about half the entire number of isolated songs published by Beethoven, and includes the popular "Adelaide," Mignon's song in "Wilhelm Meister," "Konnst du da Land," two of the songs from "Faust"—the "Liederkrantz," and "Ich war bei Chloen"—sung with so much success by Mr. Sims Reeves at the Monday Popular Concerts; "The Song of the Quail;" and, in short, most of those of Beethoven's vocal compositions which have become popular, together with others less generally known, making in all thirty-one songs. The well-known scena, "Ah! perfido," is not included in Mr. Hills' selection, nor, strangely enough, the eminently popular "In questa tomba oscura." The volume, as far as it goes, is of course highly interesting, and we believe it is the only extensive collection of Beethoven's songs that exists. We must add that the words of the songs—which, in many cases, are by the greatest poets in Germany—have been skilfully rendered into English.

Twenty-five Favourite Waltzes. By J. STRAUSS. Boosey and Co. Strauss, though only a writer of dance music, was a great inventor of melodies, and, instead of being absolutely the first in the particular line for which his genius suited him, he might, if he had thought fit, have

attained a high position as a composer of songs. Indeed, many of his waltzes—such as the first movement of the "Deutsche Lust," and of the "Sophien," and portions of the "Tanzmeister"—are, as it is, "songs without words;" though the great merit of Strauss consists, not in having written dance-tunes which sounded like songs, but in having written dance-tunes which forced those who heard them to dance. Strauss may be said to have founded a school of waltz-writers, his most successful disciples being Lanner and Labitzky. In his time the noble art of making dance-tunes out of operatic melodies was not known; but now no one writes original waltzes; and for that reason the "Twenty-five Waltzes by Strauss" will, doubtless, be well received by the public, the younger portion of which must be unacquainted with many of them.

FRENCH HUMAN NATURE.—The *Meuse* of Liège states that it has received a letter, signed "A Father in Distress," requesting the gratuitous insertion of the following advertisement:—"A father is desirous of transferring to persons of independent means and without children a very pretty little boy, seven and a half years of age, for a sum of 2000*fr.* Write to—, poste restante, Liège."

THE SAVOY DISPUTE.—Lord Normanby, in the course of his speech on the proposed annexation of Savoy, on Tuesday night, quoted the following piece of newspaper correspondence, in which he seemed to have much faith:—"Lord John Russell stated last week in the House of Commons that the English Cabinet desiring to know the intentions of the French Government with regard to Savoy, Count Walewski had declared to them in the month of July last that the Emperor and his Government did not think of the annexation of that country to France. This communication of Lord John Russell was quite exact. But, to make known all the truth, that the attitude of France with regard to Savoy should be properly appreciated, the noble Lord might have said, and perhaps ought to have said, more. . . . The declarations of Count Walewski were, then, perfectly true; but it is equally certain that later on, when events had considerably changed the situation of Italy, the Government of the Emperor saw in these eventualities new necessities, new duties, for France. Count Walewski then held quite another language, and declared that, if the Central States of Italy were annexed to Piedmont France, would be obliged to claim Savoy and the county of Nice. Count Walewski told Lord Cowley that if the English Government did not desire to see the annexation of Savoy to France they had only to cease urging the annexation of Central Italy to Piedmont, but the one rendered the other inevitable. Lord John Russell was not ignorant of these resolutions, so frankly declared by the French Government, and it is a subject of surprise that he stopped at the month of July in the explanation that he communicated to Parliament on a subject that has preoccupied public attention so much. However, the despatches of Lord Cowley cannot fail to be in one of the first volumes of the Blue-book which will be furnished to the English Parliament."

GALLANT BOATMEN.—The Spanish brig *Samaritano*, Captain Modesto Crespo, with a crew of eleven men, bound from Antwerp for Santander, went on shore on the Margate sands early on Monday morning, in a gale of wind accompanied by snow. In an ineffectual attempt to launch her boats the oars got broken and the boats stove in. A lugger from Margate (the *Eclipse*) and two smacks from Whitstable had gone to her assistance; and, as there appeared hope of getting her off the sands should the weather moderate, six Margate and two Whitstable sailors went on board her; but, the gale increasing, the vessel sprang a leak, and they and the Spanish crew were entirely cut off from all escape to the luggers, which had hovered near to render aid. In the interim the Margate life-boat had put off to the wreck, but was disabled, and had it not been for her cork linings both the boat and crew would have been lost. A tremendous sea was making a clear breach over the wreck. To prevent the vessel turning over the mainmast had been cut away, and the Spaniards and Englishmen were obliged to take to the rigging of the only remaining mast. A piercing wind was blowing, the sea reaching them even there, and snow-squalls succeeding each other. Intelligence had meanwhile been received at Ramsgate of the wreck, and the steam-tug *Aid*, having in tow the life-boat, with a crew of thirteen brave fellows, left at 12.30 for the Margate sands. The gale was by this time at its height and the sea raging furiously. The tow-ropes from the steamer broke twice, and off the North Foreland the violence of the sea was such that each was completely hidden from the other in dense spray. Arrived at the sands, it was found necessary that the life-boat should be cast off from the *Aid*, and proceed to cross them alone, the raging surf and insufficient depth of water preventing the latter from continuing. Crossing the sands in this hurricane, the wreck, which had been sighted at four o'clock, was lost to view in a snow-squall. On again perceiving her the life-boat let go her anchor on her weather side, and wore down to the assistance of the poor fellows in the rigging, who, with frostbitten hands, had been clinging for their lives, and who, had assistance arrived only one half hour later, must all have perished. Having passed life-lines to the mast, they were all safely hauled into the life-boat, which had been herself in much peril all this time; for, had her anchor or cable parted, she must have been dashed to pieces against the wreck. Having happily saved the whole of the perishing men, sail was made; but the gale instantly snapped her mast in two. With the promptitude of sailors they chopped a new heel to the broken mast, and fortunately got clear of the wreck, reaching Ramsgate, with the wet and exhausted crew, at half-past eight p.m.

SIR MICHAEL SEYMOUR AND LORD ELGIN.—In his speech on the China question in the House of Commons, on Monday, Sir Michael Seymour said:—"When a very agreeable writer, who had held an official and confidential position by the side of the noble Lord, the British Ambassador, in a work which bore an impress of something like authority, reflected on his character as Admiral, and accused him of being slow and wanting in energy, and of having interfered with the policy of the noble Lord, perhaps the House would permit him to ask why that hon. gentleman did not tell the whole story. That writer was in a position to tell the whole story, but he did not do it; he had sought to poison the public mind in regard to the conduct of one who had striven to do his duty." Mr. Lawrence Oliphant replies that he believes himself the writer alluded to; and in his account of the proceedings in the Gulf of Pecheli he did not tell the whole story, "partly from motives of delicacy towards Sir Michael Seymour, and partly because, in the confidential position which I held, I did not feel at liberty to allude to facts which did not appear in the published blue-book." "The 'whole story' is to be found in certain unpublished documents, containing an account of Sir Michael Seymour's proceedings, reflecting so little credit upon the conduct of that officer that, so far from seeking to 'poison the public mind' against him, I carefully abstained from referring to them. As, however, he has now seen fit to make so grave a charge against me, I shall cause the whole of the suppressed papers to be moved for in the House of Commons, in order that the public may have an opportunity of judging for themselves how far this charge is justified. The production of these papers may also be attended with the incidental advantage of enabling us to understand the grounds upon which the Admiralty supports its officers, and better to appreciate the precise import of Sir Michael Seymour's phrase, 'that he owed a certain allegiance, not only to the Government, but to the Admiralty whom he served.'"

THE SAN JUAN DIFFICULTY.—The *New York Herald* of the 1st instant publishes a summary of the report of the United States' Secretary of War relative to the dispute between England and America concerning the Island of San Juan. The document says:—"The 8th of December found General Scott embarked on his return, having accomplished the object of his visit. Finding the British Governor entertained no hostile purpose, he had reduced the American force at San Juan to one company of infantry, retained solely for the protection of settlers, with the understanding that, in the same spirit, the larger of the British ships should be withdrawn. Accompanying the General's despatch of that date is the correspondence which led to this adjustment. From it we learn that General Scott proposed that, until the settlement of the question by the two Governments, the island should be occupied by two companies of foot troops, one of each nation, and that all disturbances should be dealt with by the authorities of the Government to which the offending party might belong. Governor Douglas replied that, having no instruction from his Government, and being unacquainted with its views, he could not undertake to embarrass its measures by agreeing to these terms, but suggested that all the troops should be withdrawn, and things restored to their former status by a joint civil occupation. But to this General Scott objected in turn, on the ground that the civil magistrates on our part would be beyond the control of the Executive. Finally, however, General Scott directed the number of our troops to be reduced, and the attitude of neutrality to be observed, as at first proposed by him to Governor Douglas, who, on being advised of these orders, issued corresponding instructions to the British officers. What could not have been accomplished by diplomacy was thus effected by mutual action. Before taking his departure General Scott, believing that one of the first demands of the British Government would be General Harney's removal from the command of the military department of Oregon, suggested to that officer the propriety of relieving the President from any possible embarrassment by voluntarily withdrawing from that command. He accordingly authorised General Harney to proceed to St. Louis, and assume the command of the Department of the West, giving him, at the same time, leave to decline the order if he saw fit. General Harney saw fit. He declined complying with such an order, saying, 'I do not believe the President of the United States will be embarrassed by any action of the British Government in reference to San Juan Island; nor can I suppose that the President would be pleased to see me relinquish the command in any manner that does not plainly indicate his intentions towards the public service.' Thus stands the affair. General Harney still remains in charge of the Department of the Pacific."

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

The total sum required for the effective services for the year 1860-61 is £12,707,625, being a net increase of £2,539,202. The items of increase are as follows:—Land forces, pay and allowances, £775,162; land forces, miscellaneous charges, £136,423; departments of the Secretary for War and the General Commanding-in-Chief, £10,630; manufacturing establishments, &c., £14,965; wages, £194,843; provisions, &c., £181,293; warlike stores, £1,020,763; fortifications, £169,783; educational and scientific branches, £5340. The five following items exhibit reductions, viz.:—Embellished militia, a reduction of £260,000; volunteer corps, £20,000; clothing and necessaries, £108,000; civil buildings, £29,457; and barracks, £125,825.

The only items in the non-effective services which show an increase are:—Rewards for military service, £20; and superannuation allowances, £2394. In the remaining items there are reductions amounting to £15,836, the principal saving being £13,345 in the pay of reduced and retired officers.

The total amount to be voted for the effective and non-effective services for the year will be £14,842,275.

ROYAL MARRIAGES.—The project of marriage between the Prince of Orange and Princess Alice of England appears to be fully decided on. The marriage will, it is thought, take place on the 24th of May, the anniversary of the birthday of Queen Victoria. Princess Alice Maud Mary was born on the 25th of April, 1843; the Prince of Orange, Rear-Admiral and Major-General and Commander of the Brigade of Reserve of the Dutch Army, on the 3rd of September, 1840. Reports are current that Princess Alexandrina, the daughter of Prince Albert of Prussia, is the destined spouse of the Prince of Wales. Princess Alexandrina is about to enter her eighteenth year, and is a great favourite with all the members of the Prussian Royal family.

A BARGAIN.—The *Charivari* gives the following as a true story:—"Twenty years ago, three young men were walking together on the Boulevard. 'Shall we go to breakfast?' said one. 'With all my heart,' replied the second. 'But,' chimed in the third, 'where are the funds? which of us has a purse?' 'I!' exclaimed the others both at once, 'but it is empty.' 'Christ! and I am as hungry as a lawyer's clerk. What's to be done?' 'I have an idea,' said the first speaker; 'come with me.' The three entered a music-shop and asked the proprietor whether he would buy a song. 'A song? Diab! Who is it?' 'Ours.' 'Let me see it.' 'I will sing it to you,' said the shortest of the three. He sat down to the piano and sung the piece offered for sale. 'Well,' said the publisher, 'it is not bad—I will give you twenty-five francs for it.' 'What! words and music and all?' 'Oh, certainly, the times are hard.' 'It is very little—never mind—sell out—it will be enough to pay for our breakfast!' The publisher paid the twenty-five francs, and the three friends went to breakfast together. Why this story! the reader will ask. Oh, nothing in the world but this—the song was 'L'Andalous!' The publisher made 100,000*fr.* by his bargain. The author of the words was Alfred de Musset; the author of the music was Monpou; and the singer Duprez. That's all."

MAD DRUNK.—Elizabeth Curwan, aged twenty-three, a fishwoman, unmarried, was charged at Dudley, on Monday, with attempting to murder her child, a boy of about four years of age. Phoebe Coke deposed that on the previous Wednesday she heard the child crying "Don't thee, mother!" Upon looking through a window she saw the boy hanging by a cord, fastened round his neck to a nail near the chimney-piece. She called to the prisoner, who was standing with her back to the child, but received no reply. The door was forced by several neighbours, when the prisoner took the child down. It was then black in the face. Sarah Jones stated that in the evening of the same day she heard screaming, and on going into the prisoner's house found her hanging by a cord round her neck to the same nail, near the chimney-piece. "Her mother chastised her for what she had been doing, when she took a knife and attempted to cut her mother's throat, but I prevented her. The prisoner then ran up stairs, and attempted to run a fork into her little boy. She threw the fork at him, and it entered his head. I took the child into my own house, but gave it up to her again in about half an hour. After that I heard the child, when in his mother's house, cry out, 'Don't stick the fork in me, mother!' and heard the mother reply, 'It'll only be for half a minute, Jack.' The prisoner had been drinking." The prisoner said in her defence, "I was overcome by liquor, and if I did such a thing it was unknown to me; I love the child as I love my life." She was committed for trial.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.—The Russian Government is about to adopt various measures for the reorganisation of the navy. The system of organising sailors in battalions like soldiers is to be abandoned, and the men are to be divided into crews. The establishment of a floating gunnery school has also been resolved on; and the navy artillery corps is henceforth to be charged solely with preparing the various matters necessary for mounting guns, and with the defensive works on the coasts and in the colonies. The introduction of musketry on board vessels has been decided on; and improvements are to be effected in the medical service and in the hydrographical department.

PROGRESS OF FREE TRADE.—From the year 1843 to 1848, before free trade, the highest number of quarters of wheat imported was 2,656,453; while since the last-mentioned year, and after free trade, the lowest quantity imported has been 2,667,702 quarters; the average for each year from 1850 to 1859 approaching closely to 4,000,000 quarters; and the importation of other kinds of grain has increased in nearly the same proportion.

LAW AND CRIME.

MR. MYERS, proprietor of the Pavilion Theatre, and of a travelling equestrian circus, brought an action against Bray's Traction Company. Mr. Myers, being a clown, prefers the familiar name of "Jim" to his baptismal appellation of James. Jim Myers, being last year about to start upon a professional provincial tour with his troupe, was attracted by the announcement of Bray's traction-engine, and its adaptability to turnpike roads. He became impressed with the feasibility of disguising one of the engines, by means of paint and pasteboard, into the perfect semblance of a fiery dragon, vomiting vapour, and dragging by its tail a train of carriages containing Jim's performers, one of whom, by an adaptation of the well-known "hobby-horse" trick of false legs, was to be made to appear as if slipping out of the windows of one of the vehicles, the upper and real portion of the actor simulating extreme terror and affright. Large illustrated placards representing how the procession ought to appear were freely posted along the line of route. The procession started from the Pavilion Theatre at Whitechapel, and reached Camberwell-green, a distance of about seven miles, in seven hours. This was not considered a triumph, inasmuch as the fiery dragon ought, from the alleged representations of its proprietors, to have travelled at the rate of seven miles an hour. Although the running of the engine was so far a failure, the point upon it, being decomposed by the heat and steam, ran fast enough. These two causes combined produced an effect by no means lively, and at Camberwell Jim and his engine were gazed at by the mob. Two performances were given at Camberwell, and the melancholy cortege then started for Croydon, where it was expected that the advent of Jim might enliven the Home Circuit. The distance was, like the first, seven miles; but at the entrance of the assize town the engine broke down. The mob again jeered, and the police insisted upon the obvious impossibility of the engine moving on. The next stage was Bromley, and thence to Dartford; but, when a mile and a half upon the journey, the engine again stopped before the house of a violent proprietor, who declared that if Jim did not take it away he (the proprietor) would do so for him. Another engine was at length provided by the Company; but this second engine gave way near Chatham, ran into a bank, and was hopelessly wrecked thereon. A third one was sent, and this one, being of a lively turn, became unmanageable and tore up the pavement, for which Jim was threatened with an action by the parochial authorities. Near Dover a turnpike-man demanded an exorbitant toll; but as the Act, as abstracted upon the board at his lodge, authorised no particular amount whatever to be taken for such a vehicle Jim declined to pay more than 4s. 6d. The turnpike man closed the gate, but Jim drove his engine through it, smashing the gate and whelming the surly keeper in its ruins. By this Jim incurred the penalty of a second action at law. Thence to Newbury, where the successor of the fiery dragon suddenly diverged from its course, knocked down part of the front of a gentleman's house, and presented its funnel through the drawing-room window. The proprietor happened to be of an urbane disposition, and promised to overlook the damage upon Jim's promising never again to visit the premises. The engine was again started, and, rushing down a declivity, shot Myers into an oak-tree, while by a sudden jerk it deposited the head of its driver into the fire-box. That driver, by the statement of Jim's counsel, went into that fire-box a man with a thick, bushy, curly head of hair. He emerged from that box one second afterwards a bald-headed and scorched individual. The engine itself

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